

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CANBERRA,
AUSTRALIA.

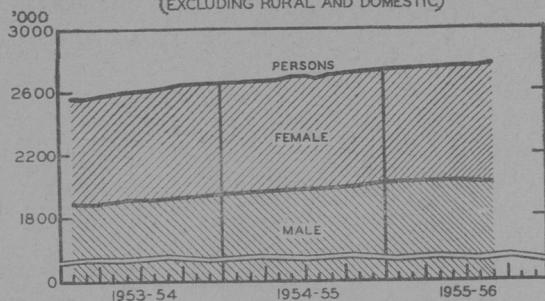
MONTHLY REVIEW OF BUSINESS STATISTICS

MARCH, 1956.

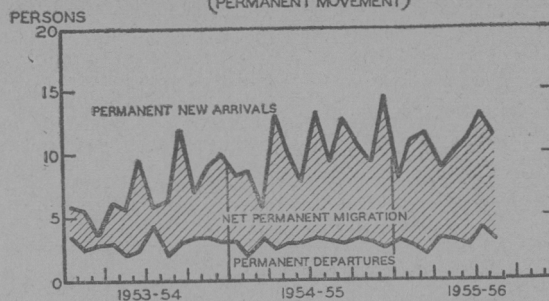
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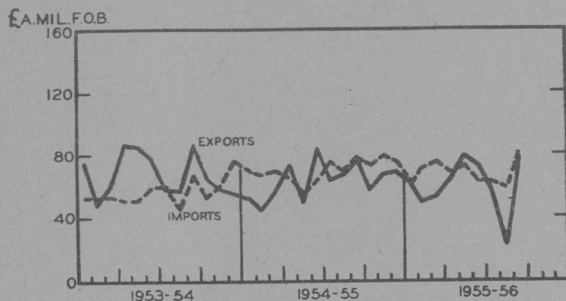
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
(EXCLUDING RURAL AND DOMESTIC)



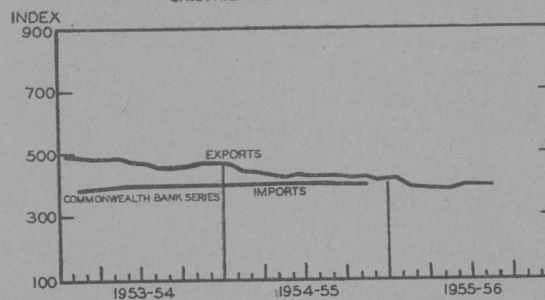
OVERSEA MIGRATION
(PERMANENT MOVEMENT)



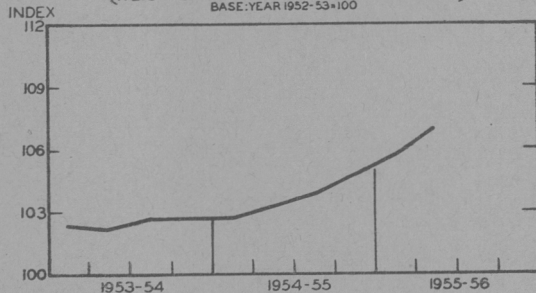
OVERSEA TRADE



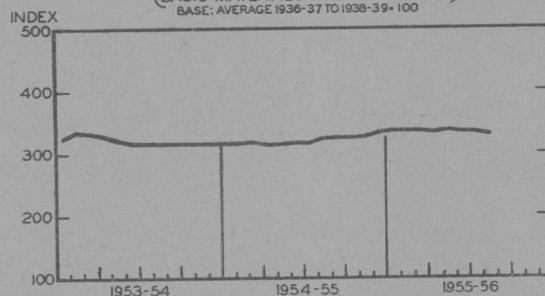
IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES
BASE: AVERAGE 1936-37 TO 1938-39 = 100



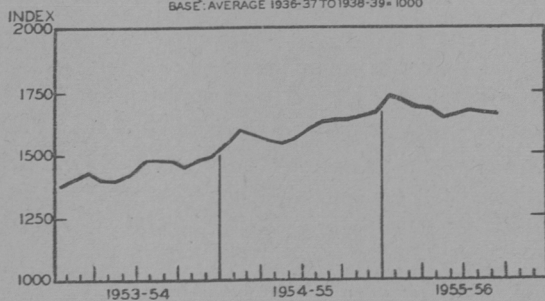
INTERIM RETAIL PRICE INDEX
(WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX CAPITAL CITIES)
BASE: YEAR 1952-53 = 100



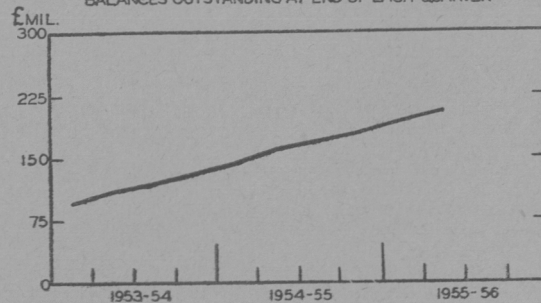
WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX
(BASIC MATERIALS AND FOODSTUFFS)
BASE: AVERAGE 1936-37 TO 1938-39 = 100



ORDINARY SHARE PRICE INDEX
(SYDNEY STOCK EXCHANGE)
BASE: AVERAGE 1936-37 TO 1938-39 = 1000



HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS: FINANCE COMPANIES
BALANCES OUTSTANDING AT END OF EACH QUARTER



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The following symbols, where shown in columns of figures, mean—

n.a. Not available.

.. Nil or less than half the final digit shown, or not applicable.

Preliminary—figure or series subject to revision.

Figure or series revised.

— Break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures).

A blank space in a column of figures means that the figure concerned is not yet available

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INDICATORS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

This and the following page summarize the trend of business activity shown by certain of the major indicators contained in various tables herein :—

Period.	Total Civil Employment. —End of Month (Excluding Rural and Household Domestic). (a)			Average Weekly Wage Earnings (b) Index (Base : 1945-46= 1,000).	Internal Trade.		Oversea Trade (Merchandise only—Values f.o.b. port of Shipment).		Building Permits(e) Six Capital Cities and Suburbs.	New Houses Com- pleted.(f)
	Males.	Females.	Total.		Whole- sale.(c)	Retail.(d)	Imports.	Exports.		
Monthly Average—	'000.	'000.	'000.		£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.	£'000.	No.
1932-33	(g)992	(g)341	(g)1,333	n.a.	29.1	n.a.	5.5	8.2	565	n.a.
1936-37	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	37.2	n.a.	8.6	12.3	1,986	n.a.
1937-38	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	40.5	n.a.	10.6	11.7	2,307	n.a.
1938-39	(h)1,293	(h)437	(h)1,730	n.a.	39.8	n.a.	9.4	10.1	2,353	n.a.
1948-49	1,757	656	2,413	1,322	93.4	240.6	34.5	45.1	5,577	(i) 12,835
1949-50	1,810	675	2,485	1,451	110.2	276.4	44.7	51.0	7,129	(i) 13,873
1950-51	1,882	707	2,589	1,742	140.5	342.7	61.8	81.6	10,426	16,895
1951-52	1,915	709	2,624	2,145	162.1	404.0	87.5	55.4	9,700	19,494
1952-53	1,876	670	2,546	2,350	158.1	425.8	42.5	70.7	10,045	19,332
1953-54	1,914	695	2,609	2,462	179.5	460.2	56.5	67.7	12,356	18,797
1954-55	1,971	727	2,698	2,572	205.5	505.1	70.1	63.2	17,920	19,890
Monthly Total—										
1953-54—										
April	1,936	708	2,644	} 2,477 {	182.4	} 464.6 {	52.1	65.3	13,622	} 19,090 {
May	1,942	707	2,649		183.0		60.1	57.8	12,904	
June	1,948	708	2,656		198.5		76.0	55.1	15,489	
1954-55—										
July	1,947	709	2,656	} 2,522 {	187.0	} 470.8 {	70.3	52.0	18,403	} 19,510 {
August	1,949	711	2,660		198.1		66.7	43.9	17,646	
September ..	1,953	715	2,668		209.9		70.3	54.8	20,078	
October	1,955	719	2,674	} 2,524 {	206.0	} 554.6 {	64.6	72.7	16,795	} 21,268 {
November ..	1,965	727	2,692		215.1		54.7	49.9	20,495	
December ..	1,969	732	2,701		212.5		64.4	84.2	14,174	
January	1,969	724	2,693	} 2,589 {	164.3	} 480.4 {	76.0	63.6	13,976	} 17,996 {
February ..	1,977	733	2,710		197.1		69.8	67.3	17,399	
March	1,986	738	2,724		224.6		77.6	77.0	18,907	
April	1,991	736	2,727	} 2,652 {	200.8	} 514.5 {	73.2	57.0	17,128	} 20,785 {
May	1,996	737	2,733		225.6		78.9	66.8	18,744	
June	2,001	738	2,739		225.4		74.7	69.0	21,308	
1955-56—							p	p		
July	1,996	739	2,735	} 2,689 {	207.0	} 517.2 {	61.4	60.9	18,238	} 19,215 {
August	2,000	741	2,741		230.5		71.1	48.9	22,578	
September ..	2,003	744	2,747		229.8		74.9	51.6	19,865	
October	2,002	748	2,750	} 2,731 {	r224.7	} 608.2 {	68.2	65.6	18,197	} 19,997 {
November ..	2,012	756	2,768		r243.7		73.5	79.2	19,708	
December ..	2,013	758	2,771		219.4		63.3	73.2	16,230	
January	j r1,991	(j) 752	j r2,743				(j) 63.4	(j) 55.6	14,674	
February ..	2,019	759	2,778				(j) 59.1	(j) 20.4		
March							(j) 80.5	(j) 77.7		

(a) Excludes Defence Forces at home or abroad, National Service Trainees in camp and, in 1932-33, Government " relief " workers. Figures from 1947-48 subject to revision. (b) Seasonally adjusted. Average earnings per employed male unit. Male units represent total male employment plus a proportion of female employment based on the approximate ratio of female to male earnings. (c) Net sales recorded under Sales Tax Acts. (d) Quarterly average sales for years and quarterly total sales. Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. Excludes Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, &c. (e) All building operations for which permits granted by local government authorities. Excludes Government buildings (see note (a) page 31). (f) Including owner-built houses. Quarterly averages for years, and quarterly totals. (g) June, 1933; obtained from Census. (h) July, 1939; obtained from National Register. (i) Partly estimated. (j) Affected by Industrial Disputes. For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r —, see page 1.

INDICATORS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY—continued.

Period.	Production of Black Coal.	Total Electricity Generated.	Production of Ingot Steel.	New Motor Vehicles Registered (a) (Excluding Defence Service Vehicles).		Government Railways : Gross Revenue.	P.M.G.'s Department Cash Receipts.	Private Trading Banks. (b)		Bank Debits to Customers' Accounts (Weekly Averages).
				Motor Cars.	Commercial Vehicles.			Deposits.	Advances.	
Monthly Average—	'000 tons.	Million kWh	'000 tons.	'000.	'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£m.	£m.	£m.
1932-33 ..	732	225	32.7	1.0	0.3	3,017	1,053	269.9	231.0	n.a.
1936-37 ..	977	331	90.0	4.0	2.0	3,517	1,318	297.6	262.5	n.a.
1937-38 ..	990	363	97.2	4.6	2.3	3,705	1,396	314.8	274.4	n.a.
1938-39 ..	1,051	391	97.5	4.5	2.1	3,662	1,447	317.7	288.1	n.a.
1948-49 ..	1,237	754	98.2	5.5	3.1	7,165	2,776	776.4	368.6	212.8
1949-50 ..	1,243	792	101.5	9.6	4.8	7,683	3,196	910.1	403.9	271.1
1950-51 ..	1,368	875	120.3	10.6	6.5	8,804	3,732	1,144.2	479.3	372.9
1951-52 ..	1,598	941	126.8	10.4	6.1	11,626	4,948	1,201.7	621.4	402.4
1952-53 ..	1,545	1,024	150.1	7.7	4.4	12,903	5,371	1,162.4	638.1	389.3
1953-54 ..	1,619	1,142	176.4	10.4	4.8	14,155	5,650	1,275.5	658.5	446.5
1954-55 ..	p1,613	p1,275	p184.1	13.9	5.6	14,521	6,069	1,310.7	776.8	491.6
Monthly Total—										
1953-54—						(c)				
March ..	1,818	1,189	176.0	11.7	5.3	14,764	6,247	1,363.0	664.3	489.3
April ..	1,545	1,133	174.5	11.3	4.9	13,772	5,587	1,354.9	684.7	449.8
May ..	1,721	1,255	184.5	11.7	5.2	14,686	5,779	1,323.3	695.4	490.6
June ..	1,721	1,290	176.0	12.4	5.3	15,922	6,106	1,305.0	701.7	500.0
1954-55—	p	p	p							
July ..	1,762	1,359	202.4	13.4	5.7	14,456	5,657	1,271.7	724.9	471.3
August ..	1,747	1,321	193.2	15.9	6.0	15,123	5,558	1,256.7	738.8	443.4
September ..	1,832	1,255	197.3	13.8	6.3	15,375	5,903	1,260.3	757.1	472.7
October ..	1,728	1,243	200.9	13.6	5.8	15,304	5,929	1,285.9	780.1	497.6
November ..	1,782	1,212	189.5	13.6	6.2	15,856	6,397	1,299.3	786.2	483.4
December ..	1,479	1,189	189.2	13.4	5.7	15,786	7,038	1,317.7	785.7	511.0
January ..	906	1,162	173.6	8.1	3.8	13,082	5,160	1,334.8	769.8	463.7
February ..	1,566	1,163	156.3	12.7	4.8	12,947	5,927	1,356.2	772.9	504.9
March ..	1,641	1,315	182.2	15.8	5.9	13,725	6,619	1,364.3	775.9	501.9
April ..	1,485	1,243	158.1	13.5	4.9	13,704	5,769	1,345.3	795.8	485.1
May ..	1,712	1,396	190.0	16.1	6.2	14,762	6,231	1,328.7	811.4	532.1
June ..	1,712	1,441	178.6	16.5	6.2	14,134	6,637	1,307.2	817.7	521.9
1955-56—										
July ..	1,777	1,508	195.8	15.1	6.0	14,215	5,921	1,280.8	829.9	520.7
August ..	1,906	1,478	197.7	16.8	6.2	15,418	6,509	1,264.2	820.4	479.3
September ..	1,797	1,383	189.1	16.0	6.6	15,514	6,493	1,257.7	823.1	493.3
October ..	1,692	1,376	190.2	15.0	6.6	15,259	6,266	1,277.1	831.4	519.2
November ..	1,730	1,365	192.2	14.8	6.1	15,535	6,437	1,295.8	823.3	551.4
December ..	1,353	r1,309	192.7	14.4	5.9		7,142	1,321.5	814.5	563.1
January ..	r856	1,272	197.5	10.1	4.8		6,097	1,331.8	784.2	489.8
February ..	1,406	r192.7	11.8	5.3			6,285	1,331.9	773.7	501.5
March ..	1,472		202.3	14.4	6.1		6,803	1,334.4	776.2	526.9

(a) Excludes Northern Territory prior to July, 1953; also extra-metropolitan area of Western Australia prior to 1938-39
(b) Until December, 1946, averages of deposits and advances on Mondays in period; thereafter on Wednesdays. (c) Calculated from monthly returns of revenue and expenditure and not strictly comparable with annual figures above as monthly details exclude certain items of revenue and expenditure which are only allocated on an annual basis.

For meaning of symbols, n.a., p, r, —, see page 1.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS : AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Marriages.	Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.(a)	Net Migration.(b)	Total Increase.(c)	Population at end of Period.
Quarterly Average—							
1936-37	14,627	29,634	16,129	13,505	496	14,291	6,835,536
1937-38	15,529	29,924	16,170	13,754	1,676	15,751	6,898,541
1938-39	15,279	30,636	17,023	13,613	3,339	17,303	6,967,754
1948-49	18,498	44,149	19,041	25,108	25,287	49,826	7,908,066
1949-50	18,558	47,048	19,001	28,047	40,387	67,657	8,178,696
1950-51	19,211	48,114	19,896	28,218	33,244	60,770	8,421,775
1951-52	18,896	49,228	20,661	28,567	25,720	53,671	8,636,458
1952-53	17,870	50,739	20,023	30,716	14,516	44,726	8,815,362
1953-54	17,827	50,400	20,390	30,010	13,263	42,792	8,986,530
1954-55	17,848	51,213	20,541	30,672	22,868	53,540	9,200,691
Quarterly Total—							
1952-53—							
December Qtr. ..	20,004	51,102	19,542	31,560	20,819	51,795	8,739,569
March	17,393	51,469	17,142	34,327	8,632	42,483	8,782,052
June	18,406	49,489	19,532	29,957	3,730	33,310	8,815,362
1953-54—							
September	15,210	50,517	23,289	27,228	10,335	37,149	8,852,511
December	19,631	50,760	20,225	30,535	20,200	50,175	8,902,686
March	17,868	49,709	17,367	32,342	12,175	44,020	8,946,706
June	18,600	50,613	20,677	29,936	10,340	39,824	8,986,530
1954-55—							
September	15,097	50,772	24,670	26,102	16,809	42,911	9,029,441
December	19,664	51,162	19,091	32,071	28,883	60,954	9,090,395
March	17,705	51,318	17,680	33,638	25,101	58,739	9,149,134
June	18,924	51,600	20,723	30,877	20,680	51,557	9,200,691
1955-56—							
September	15,449	53,714	24,209	29,505	25,853	55,358	9,256,049
December	20,094	r51,045	19,424	r31,621	25,621	r57,242	r9,313,291

(a) Excess of births over deaths. (b) Excess of arrivals over departures. (c) Includes natural increase and net migration together with adjustments for deaths of defence personnel and adjustments of population between July, 1933 and June, 1954, on the basis of Census results. (d) Census 30th June, 1954.

POPULATION: STATES.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.
30th June—									
1939 ..	2,748,393	1,878,480	1,018,007	596,563	470,044	237,419	6,281	12,567	6,967,754
1948 ..	3,015,763	2,092,320	1,131,200	661,153	515,074	261,206	12,254	19,791	7,708,761
1949 ..	3,092,621	2,142,986	1,159,124	679,305	532,191	267,062	13,391	21,386	7,908,066
1950 ..	3,193,372	2,208,078	1,196,185	709,547	557,096	275,902	14,692	23,824	8,178,696
1951 ..	3,278,032	2,276,575	1,227,701	732,430	580,343	286,193	15,609	24,892	8,421,775
1952 ..	3,339,455	2,344,491	1,259,478	755,053	599,858	296,299	15,464	26,360	8,636,458
1953 ..	3,383,792	2,395,254	1,291,410	775,781	620,547	304,080	15,853	28,645	8,815,362
1954 (a) ..	3,423,529	2,452,341	1,318,259	797,094	639,771	308,752	16,469	30,315	8,986,530
1955 ..	3,490,331	2,523,018	1,344,572	819,549	658,538	314,679	17,580	32,424	9,200,691
31st December—									
1955 ..	3,525,923	2,555,021	r1,350,684	834,635	670,750	r325,801	17,007	33,470	r9,313,291

(a) Census—30th June, 1954.

For meaning of symbol r, see page 1.

OVERSEA MIGRATION.

Permanent migration refers to persons, other than Australian troops, intending residence for one year or longer—in Australia in the case of arrivals, and abroad in the case of departures. Temporary migration refers to persons intending residence for shorter periods, together with Australian troops from July, 1947, onwards, irrespective of length of intended residence.

Period.	Temporary.				Permanent.		
	Australian Residents.		Visitors from Overseas.		Arrivals.	Australian Residents Departing.	Excess of Arrivals.
	Arriving.	Departing.	Arriving.	Departing.			
Monthly Average—							
1936-37	1,910	1,937	2,294	2,297	1,148	953	195
1937-38	2,127	2,060	2,617	2,678	1,478	925	553
1938-39	2,145	1,966	2,649	2,742	2,081	1,055	1,026
1948-49	2,008	1,898	2,829	2,566	9,568	1,511	8,057
1949-50	2,336	2,500	3,470	3,644	15,407	1,608	13,799
1950-51	2,812	2,617	3,594	3,753	12,774	1,729	11,045
1951-52	3,251	3,233	3,895	4,085	10,872	2,126	8,746
1952-53	3,351	3,427	3,838	4,198	7,991	2,717	5,274
1953-54	3,648	3,556	3,953	3,906	7,206	2,924	4,282
1954-55	4,107	4,013	4,277	4,220	10,348	2,877	7,471
Monthly Total—							
1953-54—							
February	3,223	3,268	4,083	3,557	6,226	1,978	4,248
March	3,602	6,330	5,313	4,867	11,979	3,124	8,855
April	3,643	5,757	4,173	4,580	6,894	3,357	3,537
May	2,593	4,768	3,269	4,303	9,056	3,256	5,800
June	2,773	3,319	3,918	3,562	10,036	3,113	6,923
1954-55—							
July	2,608	3,025	3,230	3,572	8,442	3,120	5,322
August	2,910	2,134	2,858	2,694	8,611	1,842	6,769
September	4,675	2,654	3,934	3,954	5,759	3,223	2,536
October	4,564	2,518	4,507	3,985	13,197	2,375	10,822
November	5,643	2,805	4,286	4,515	10,115	2,869	7,246
December	4,890	5,014	5,383	4,656	7,919	2,884	5,035
January	5,242	3,883	5,113	5,055	13,256	3,338	9,918
February	4,299	5,067	4,751	4,502	9,380	3,101	6,279
March	3,932	5,636	4,704	4,801	12,711	2,904	9,807
April	3,622	6,249	4,761	4,653	10,718	3,308	7,410
May	3,675	5,760	4,353	4,699	9,408	3,030	6,378
June	3,228	3,405	3,441	3,557	14,664	2,529	12,135
1955-56—							
July	3,050	3,143	3,089	3,557	7,885	3,130	4,755
August	3,842	2,859	4,025	3,521	10,926	2,681	8,245
September	4,781	2,714	4,021	3,847	11,675	1,989	9,686
October	6,313	4,558	5,078	4,501	8,868	3,451	5,417
November	5,735	3,530	4,611	4,876	10,083	3,224	6,859
December	5,158	5,376	5,618	4,755	11,221	2,793	8,428
January	6,201	4,828	5,703	5,468	13,328	4,227	9,101
February	4,549	4,936	5,294	4,826	11,436	3,004	8,432

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN EMPLOYMENT : AUSTRALIA.(a)

('000.)

Month.	Total Civil Employment. (Excluding Rural and Household Domestic.)			Total Employment in Main Industrial Groups.						
	Governmental Authorities.(b)	Private Employers.	Total.	Mining and Quarrying.	Factories.(c)	Building and Construction.	Transport and Communication.	Retail Trade.	Other Commerce and Finance.	Professional and Personal Services.(d)
MALES.										
1939—July ..	349.8	943.3	1,293.1	52.2	391.5	149.7	185.9	259.7		133.6
1953—June ..	567.8	1,319.0	1,886.8	58.0	666.3	193.2	295.1	125.0	191.0	174.1
1954—June ..	581.4	1,367.0	1,948.4	58.7	696.1	205.7	300.1	128.4	198.3	176.6
1955—June ..	599.1	1,401.4	2,000.5	58.3	714.5	211.8	308.7	129.2	207.1	182.1
1954—November ..	583.6	1,381.2	1,964.8	57.7	703.5	203.4	301.5	131.7	203.7	178.1
December	584.7	1,384.3	1,969.0	57.6	702.4	201.0	302.7	134.9	205.0	179.6
1955—January ..	585.8	1,382.3	1,968.1	57.4	703.9	201.8	303.3	130.1	206.6	178.6
February ..	589.2	1,388.2	1,977.4	57.5	707.1	203.6	304.4	129.6	207.2	180.7
November ..	595.4	1,417.2	2,012.6	57.7	722.4	208.6	308.6	131.9	210.5	183.6
December	596.5	1,416.6	2,013.1	57.2	718.5	205.5	308.9	135.6	212.3	185.4
1956—January(e)	595.5	r1,395.4	r1,990.9	57.2	718.9	207.1	r288.4	131.4	212.6	184.8
February(e)	597.7	1,421.2	2,018.9	56.6	721.7	210.7	308.6	130.2	213.6	186.8
FEMALES.										
1939—July ..	55.2	381.9	437.1	0.3	148.2	1.2	12.6	114.9		129.0
1953—June ..	112.0	561.7	673.7	0.9	202.9	4.3	36.2	109.9	71.5	213.5
1954—June ..	114.5	593.0	707.5	1.0	219.8	4.7	36.5	115.3	77.0	218.7
1955—June ..	122.8	615.7	738.5	1.1	225.3	4.9	38.4	121.6	83.1	228.1
1954—November ..	117.0	610.5	727.5	1.0	224.6	4.7	37.7	123.8	79.2	221.6
December	116.3	615.6	731.9	1.0	224.4	4.7	37.1	128.3	79.1	222.3
1955—January ..	116.2	608.0	724.2	1.0	223.4	4.8	37.6	120.3	80.5	221.5
February ..	119.3	613.5	732.8	1.0	226.8	4.8	38.0	119.5	82.3	224.8
November ..	124.9	631.2	756.1	1.1	228.8	4.9	40.0	128.8	84.6	232.0
December	124.0	634.2	758.2	1.1	227.6	4.9	39.1	132.3	85.1	232.0
1956—January ..	123.9	628.3	752.2	1.1	226.7	4.9	39.5	125.9	86.2	231.8
February ..	127.3	632.1	759.4	1.1	231.7	5.0	39.9	123.3	88.1	234.0
PERSONS.										
1939—July ..	405.0	1,325.2	1,730.2	52.5	539.7	150.9	198.5	374.6		262.6
1953—June ..	679.8	1,880.7	2,560.5	58.9	869.2	197.5	331.3	234.9	262.5	387.6
1954—June ..	695.9	1,960.0	2,655.9	59.7	915.9	210.4	336.6	243.7	275.3	395.3
1955—June ..	721.9	2,017.1	2,739.0	59.4	939.8	216.7	347.1	250.8	290.2	410.2
1954—November ..	700.6	1,991.7	2,692.3	58.7	928.1	208.1	339.2	255.5	282.9	399.7
December	701.0	1,999.9	2,700.9	58.6	926.8	205.7	339.8	263.2	284.1	401.9
1955—January ..	702.0	1,990.3	2,692.3	58.4	927.3	206.6	340.9	250.4	287.1	400.1
February ..	708.5	2,001.7	2,710.2	58.5	933.9	208.4	342.4	249.1	289.5	405.5
November ..	720.3	2,048.4	2,768.7	58.8	951.2	213.5	348.6	260.7	295.1	415.6
December	720.5	2,050.8	2,771.3	58.3	946.1	210.4	348.0	267.9	297.4	417.4
1956—January(e)	719.4	r2,023.7	r2,743.1	58.3	945.6	212.0	r327.9	257.3	298.8	416.6
February(e)	725.0	2,053.3	2,778.3	57.7	953.4	215.7	348.5	253.5	301.7	420.8

(a) Excludes Defence Forces, at home or abroad, and National Service Trainees in camp. Estimated total employment is based on Pay-roll Tax returns and records of Government employment. Figures from June, 1953, subject to revision. (b) Includes all employees of Australian Government authorities (Commonwealth, State and Local) on services such as railways, tramways, banks, post office, air transport, education, broadcasting, police, public works, factories and munitions establishments, migrant hostels, &c., as well as administrative employees within Australia. (c) Pay-roll series subject to revision. (d) Includes Education, Health, Hotels and Restaurants, other Professional and Personal Services (except female private domestic). (e) Affected by Industrial Disputes.

For meaning of symbol r, see page 1.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN EMPLOYMENT : STATES.(a)

('000)

Month.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.
MALES.									
1939—July ..	529.9	357.5	172.8	106.7	82.9	37.4	2.1	3.8	1,293.1
1953—June ..	734.3	521.6	255.2	170.6	130.2	61.8	4.6	8.5	1,886.8
1954—June ..	758.1	539.7	263.7	176.0	135.0	62.8	4.9	8.2	1,948.4
1955—June ..	779.2	556.7	272.0	178.7	136.4	64.0	4.8	8.7	2,000.5
1954—October ..	761.9	542.6	264.7	175.5	135.1	62.3	4.9	8.2	1,955.2
November..	767.4	545.0	264.7	176.0	135.7	62.9	4.8	8.3	1,964.8
December	770.0	546.9	263.3	176.5	135.5	63.7	4.8	8.3	1,969.0
1955—January ..	767.8	549.2	260.9	177.5	135.3	64.1	4.9	8.4	1,968.1
February ..	772.7	550.3	264.4	177.5	135.2	64.0	4.8	8.5	1,977.4
October ..	779.4	557.0	273.1	179.5	136.3	62.9	4.9	8.8	2,001.9
November..	784.1	559.9	273.9	180.7	137.0	63.3	4.9	8.8	2,012.6
December	786.1	561.1	269.0	181.9	137.5	63.7	4.9	8.9	2,013.1
1956—January(b)..	r777.3	r558.0	r263.6	r180.4	r135.1	r62.7	4.9	8.9	r1,990.9
February(b)	786.7	563.2	270.5	183.0	137.5	64.3	4.8	8.9	2,018.9
FEMALES.									
1939—July ..	168.0	142.9	53.2	34.0	26.2	11.6	0.2	1.0	437.1
1953—June ..	266.2	205.9	83.7	53.4	41.0	20.1	0.9	2.5	673.7
1954—June ..	279.5	217.7	86.1	56.9	42.8	21.0	0.9	2.6	707.5
1955—June ..	292.5	227.0	89.3	60.2	43.9	21.7	1.0	2.9	738.5
1954—October ..	286.1	220.4	86.7	58.2	43.5	20.2	0.9	2.7	718.7
November..	291.0	222.3	87.6	58.6	43.9	20.5	0.9	2.7	727.5
December	293.0	223.0	88.3	58.8	44.2	21.0	0.9	2.7	731.9
1955—January ..	287.8	222.3	87.3	59.2	42.8	21.2	0.9	2.7	724.2
February ..	291.5	224.4	88.6	59.8	43.8	21.1	0.9	2.7	732.8
October ..	297.7	228.3	90.6	61.9	43.9	21.5	1.0	2.9	747.8
November..	301.5	230.7	91.1	62.6	44.4	21.8	1.1	2.9	756.1
December	303.4	229.9	91.0	63.2	44.5	22.2	1.1	2.9	758.2
1956—January ..	298.5	229.6	90.2	64.0	43.7	22.2	1.1	2.9	752.2
February ..	300.9	233.0	90.9	63.7	44.6	22.2	1.0	3.1	759.4
PERSONS.									
1939—July ..	697.9	500.4	226.0	140.7	109.1	49.0	2.3	4.8	1,730.2
1953—June ..	1,000.5	727.5	338.9	224.0	171.2	81.9	5.5	11.0	2,560.5
1954—June ..	1,037.6	757.4	349.8	232.9	177.8	83.8	5.8	10.8	2,655.9
1955—June ..	1,071.7	783.7	361.3	238.9	180.3	85.7	5.8	11.6	2,739.0
1954—October ..	1,048.0	763.0	351.4	233.7	178.6	82.5	5.8	10.9	2,673.9
November..	1,058.4	767.3	352.3	234.6	179.6	83.4	5.7	11.0	2,692.3
December	1,063.0	769.9	351.6	235.3	179.7	84.7	5.7	11.0	2,700.9
1955—January ..	1,055.6	771.5	348.2	236.7	178.1	85.3	5.8	11.1	2,692.3
February ..	1,064.2	774.7	353.0	237.3	179.0	85.1	5.7	11.2	2,710.2
October ..	1,077.1	785.3	363.7	241.4	180.2	84.4	5.9	11.7	2,749.7
November..	1,085.6	790.6	365.0	243.3	181.4	85.1	6.0	11.7	2,768.7
December	1,089.5	791.0	360.0	245.1	182.0	85.9	6.0	11.8	2,771.3
1956—January(b)..	r1,075.8	r787.6	r353.8	r244.4	r178.8	r84.9	6.0	11.8	r2,743.1
February(b)	1,087.6	796.2	361.4	246.7	182.1	86.5	5.8	12.0	2,778.3

(a) Excludes Rural, Household Domestic and Defence Forces and National Service Trainees in camp. See also notes on page 6.

(b) Affected by Industrial Disputes.

For meaning of symbol r, see page 1.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES.(a)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.				
							Males.	Females.	Persons.	Index—Av. 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.	
										Un-adjusted.	Divided by Index of Total Population.
	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.		
Monthly Average—											
1936-37 ..	197.8	183.0	45.9	39.3	21.4	11.8	359.6	139.6	499.2	950	959
1937-38 ..	215.6	193.6	49.6	42.6	22.0	12.5	387.7	148.2	535.9	1,019	1,019
1938-39 ..	219.5	193.9	51.5	42.0	22.1	13.2	391.8	150.4	542.2	1,031	1,022
1948-49 ..	358.8	274.9	76.8	73.4	35.2	21.2	628.0	212.3	840.3	1,598	1,408
1949-50 ..	358.8	281.5	79.6	75.7	36.6	21.9	636.9	217.2	854.1	1,624	1,386
1950-51 ..	379.0	290.4	83.2	80.8	38.6	22.2	664.8	229.4	894.2	1,701	1,408
1951-52 ..	377.9	292.2	83.1	81.3	38.8	22.0	672.3	223.0	895.3	1,703	1,369
1952-53 ..	351.4	279.1	82.1	77.2	38.7	21.5	652.7	197.3	850.0	1,617	1,268
1953-54 ..	369.6	296.1	85.0	82.2	40.3	22.4	681.1	214.5	895.6	1,703	1,312
1954-55 ..	384.0	308.5	87.1	85.1	41.3	23.0	704.9	224.1	929.0	1,767	1,334
Monthly Total—											
1953-54—											
February ..	373.7	299.8	83.3	84.0	40.4	22.5	685.2	218.5	903.7	1,719	1,319
March ..	374.9	303.4	84.0	84.6	40.7	23.1	688.3	222.4	910.7	1,732	1,327
April ..	375.0	303.7	84.4	84.7	40.5	23.4	690.2	221.5	911.7	1,734	1,327
May ..	376.0	302.1	86.3	84.4	40.6	23.4	692.4	220.4	912.8	1,736	1,326
June ..	376.7	302.7	88.1	84.3	40.8	23.3	696.1	219.8	915.9	1,742	1,329
1954-55—											
July ..	377.1	303.2	89.0	83.9	40.6	22.8	696.1	220.5	916.6	1,743	1,330
August ..	378.5	303.9	89.0	84.2	40.6	22.3	697.8	220.7	918.5	1,747	1,333
September ..	380.4	304.9	88.8	84.1	40.5	22.2	698.9	222.0	920.9	1,752	1,333
October ..	382.1	306.6	88.0	84.2	40.9	22.2	700.6	223.4	924.0	1,757	1,334
November ..	384.6	308.1	87.6	84.4	41.1	22.3	703.5	224.6	928.1	1,765	1,337
December ..	383.8	308.3	85.7	84.7	41.2	23.1	702.4	224.4	926.8	1,763	1,333
January ..	383.8	309.8	83.0	85.8	41.4	23.5	703.9	223.4	927.3	1,764	1,330
February ..	386.8	311.2	85.2	85.8	41.7	23.2	707.1	226.8	933.9	1,776	1,336
March ..	387.7	312.5	85.7	86.4	41.9	23.5	709.7	228.0	937.7	1,784	1,339
April ..	386.9	311.2	86.4	86.5	41.9	23.8	711.4	225.3	936.7	1,782	1,336
May ..	388.0	310.7	88.0	85.8	42.0	23.8	713.5	224.8	938.3	1,785	1,335
June ..	388.2	311.6	88.9	85.7	41.8	23.6	714.5	225.3	939.8	1,787	1,335
1955-56—											
July(b) ..	386.3	310.2	89.8	85.7	41.5	23.1	712.2	224.4	936.6	1,781	1,327
August ..	389.7	312.1	89.7	85.5	41.7	23.1	716.2	225.6	941.8	1,791	1,333
September ..	390.2	312.9	90.0	86.0	42.0	23.2	717.4	226.9	944.3	1,796	1,333
October ..	391.7	314.5	90.0	86.0	41.9	23.3	718.7	228.7	947.4	1,802	1,335
November ..	393.3	315.6	90.2	86.4	42.2	23.5	722.4	228.8	951.2	1,809	rl,337
December ..	392.3	314.8	85.0	87.3	42.3	24.4	718.5	227.6	946.1	1,800	rl,327
January(b) ..	391.1	315.5	83.4	88.7	42.1	24.8	718.9	226.7	945.6	1,799	1,325
February(b) ..	394.2	318.9	85.4	88.3	41.9	24.7	721.7	231.7	953.4	1,814	1,333

(a) Excludes National Service Trainees in camp. Figures from 1948-49 subject to revision.

(b) Affected by Industrial Disputes.

For meaning of symbol r, see page 1.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS EMPLOYED IN RETAIL TRADE.(a)

('000.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.(b)		
							Males.	Females.	Persons.
Monthly Average—									
1948-49.. ..	93.9	65.7	29.9	22.6	17.1	6.9	125.5	111.2	236.7
1949-50.. ..	93.4	66.8	30.2	23.1	17.6	7.0	126.7	112.0	238.7
1950-51.. ..	97.2	68.8	31.1	23.9	18.2	7.3	129.3	117.8	247.1
1951-52.. ..	95.9	68.6	31.3	23.6	18.4	7.3	128.0	117.7	245.7
1952-53.. ..	90.1	66.1	30.0	22.4	18.1	7.2	124.2	110.4	234.6
1953-54.. ..	93.0	67.5	30.6	23.1	19.0	7.5	127.2	114.0	241.2
1954-55.. ..	96.3	69.9	31.2	24.2	19.6	7.7	129.7	119.8	249.5
Monthly Total—									
1953-54—									
February	92.7	67.3	30.3	23.0	19.0	7.6	127.1	113.5	240.6
March	93.0	67.7	30.2	23.1	19.0	7.5	127.3	113.7	241.0
April	92.8	68.1	30.2	23.4	19.1	7.5	127.6	114.1	241.7
May	93.6	68.2	30.4	23.4	19.3	7.5	128.4	114.7	243.1
June	93.6	68.5	30.8	23.4	19.3	7.4	128.4	115.3	243.7
1954-55—									
July	93.2	68.3	30.7	23.3	19.4	7.5	128.0	114.9	242.9
August	93.4	68.1	30.8	23.3	19.2	7.4	128.0	114.9	242.9
September	93.9	68.3	31.0	23.6	19.2	7.6	128.2	115.9	244.1
October	94.8	68.7	31.1	23.7	19.4	7.5	128.2	117.7	245.9
November	100.0	71.0	31.8	24.4	19.8	7.8	131.7	123.8	255.5
December	104.4	72.7	32.5	24.5	20.3	8.1	134.9	128.3	263.2
January	96.4	70.2	31.2	24.5	19.6	7.9	130.1	120.3	250.4
February	95.8	70.0	30.8	24.5	19.4	7.8	129.6	119.5	249.1
March	96.1	69.8	30.8	24.5	19.6	7.8	129.6	119.6	249.2
April	95.9	70.0	31.0	24.5	19.7	7.8	129.2	120.3	249.5
May	96.5	70.3	31.3	24.6	19.7	7.8	129.4	121.6	251.0
June	95.7	71.0	31.3	24.6	19.8	7.8	129.2	121.6	250.8
1955-56—									
July	96.1	70.0	31.5	24.7	19.7	7.9	128.8	121.7	250.5
August	95.9	70.2	31.3	24.6	19.6	7.8	128.8	121.3	250.1
September	96.1	70.6	31.3	24.9	19.6	7.8	128.9	122.1	251.0
October	96.5	71.2	31.6	25.1	19.7	7.9	129.5	123.3	252.8
November	100.6	73.0	32.5	25.7	20.0	8.1	131.9	128.8	260.7
December	106.0	73.5	32.5	26.3	20.5	8.3	135.6	132.3	267.9
January	98.0	72.3	32.1	25.9	20.2	8.0	131.4	125.9	257.3
February	96.6	71.2	31.4	25.7	19.9	8.0	130.2	123.3	253.5

(a) Estimates based on Pay-roll Tax returns. Excludes National Service Trainees in camp. Figures subject to revision.
 (b) Includes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL WAGES PAID AND AVERAGE EARNINGS.

The following figures are derived from employment and wages recorded on Pay-roll Tax returns (which cover approximately 80 per cent. of total employment) and from estimates of the unrecorded balance. Pay of members of the armed forces is not included. The figures are not seasonally adjusted. A seasonally adjusted quarterly index of average weekly wage earnings is published on page 2.

Period.	New South Wales.(a)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(b)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL WAGES PAID (£'000).							
1948-49	8,133	5,540	2,503	1,644	1,120	580	19,520
1949-50	9,018	6,370	2,838	1,894	1,315	672	22,107
1950-51	11,385	7,916	3,501	2,389	1,639	817	27,647
1951-52	14,364	9,816	4,319	3,018	2,108	1,059	34,684
1952-53	15,090	10,490	4,750	3,311	2,344	1,178	37,163
1953-54	16,043	11,305	5,065	3,561	2,586	1,280	39,840
1954-55	17,357	12,221	5,398	3,839	2,731	1,365	42,911
1953-54—							
December Qtr. ..	16,753	11,748	5,225	3,640	2,672	1,296	41,334
March	15,303	10,796	4,818	3,447	2,467	1,250	38,081
June	16,463	11,619	5,245	3,673	2,644	1,356	41,000
1954-55—							
September	16,765	11,848	5,344	3,750	2,729	1,277	41,713
December	17,918	12,440	5,612	3,862	2,773	1,345	43,950
March	16,511	11,678	5,017	3,712	2,610	1,346	40,874
June	18,235	12,916	5,619	4,033	2,813	1,492	45,108
1955-56—							
September	18,454	12,890	5,765	4,097	2,844	1,414	45,464
December	19,683	13,664	6,034	4,267	2,980	1,462	48,090

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS PER EMPLOYED MALE UNIT (£).(c)									
1948-49	..	..	8.73	8.84	7.63	8.03	7.75	7.56	8.44
1949-50	..	..	9.50	9.78	8.34	8.83	8.65	8.49	9.26
1950-51	..	..	11.46	11.70	9.82	10.58	10.23	9.99	11.09
1951-52	..	..	14.24	14.20	11.93	13.13	12.80	12.59	13.65
1952-53	..	..	15.50	15.46	13.32	14.58	14.13	13.97	14.95
1953-54	..	..	16.15	16.27	14.05	15.30	15.04	14.92	15.69
1954-55	..	..	16.96	17.06	14.51	16.09	15.55	15.60	16.42
1953-54—									
December	Qtr.	..	16.87	16.99	14.58	15.81	15.60	15.23	16.33
March	„	..	15.33	15.44	13.47	14.67	14.29	14.48	14.94
June	„	..	16.38	16.48	14.33	15.52	15.20	15.51	15.93
1954-55—									
September	„	..	16.60	16.76	14.41	15.86	15.62	14.91	16.14
December	„	..	17.53	17.45	15.14	16.26	15.78	15.51	16.86
March	„	..	16.07	16.20	13.59	15.50	14.86	15.20	15.59
June	„	..	17.64	17.81	14.90	16.73	15.92	16.76	17.07
1955-56—									
September	„	..	17.79	17.75	15.16	16.98	16.12	16.11	17.16
December	„	..	18.83	18.68	15.89	17.49	16.82	16.65	18.04

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) Total wages as above divided by total civil employment expressed in male units. Male units represent total male employment plus a proportion of female employment based on the approximate ratio of female to male earnings. The same ratio has been used in each State and because the average ratio of female to male earnings may vary between States, precise comparisons between average earnings in different States cannot be made on the basis of the figures above.

NOTE.—Comparisons as to trend should be made for complete years or corresponding periods of incomplete years. Quarterly totals and averages are affected by seasonal influences.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS.

Compiled from information furnished by the Department of Social Services on the operation of Part VII. of the Social Services Act 1947-1955.

NUMBER OF PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT END OF EACH MONTH.(a)

Period.	Unemployment.								Sickness.	Special.
	New South Wales.(c)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(d)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	A.C.T. (e)	Australia.	Australia. (f)	Australia. (f)
Monthly Average—										
1947-48	637	140	2,640	49	390	32	..	3,888	8,538	517
1948-49	282	32	1,094	15	121	31	..	1,575	7,614	591
1949-50	8,327	123	1,371	241	155	30	..	10,247	7,585	897
1950-51	287	71	326	6	59	14	..	763	7,059	863
1951-52	949	220	1,374	24	64	16	..	2,647	6,454	993
1952-53 (f) ..	17,590	6,168	4,281	842	841	262	..	29,984	7,140	1,408
1953-54 (f) ..	6,495	2,698	3,169	252	406	212	..	13,232	7,994	1,868
1954-55 (f) ..	1,440	539	1,408	66	153	81	3	3,690	7,984	1,983
Monthly Total—										
1953-54—(f)										
March	3,675	1,277	3,644	93	196	85	..	8,970	7,735	1,838
April	3,445	1,229	3,252	77	239	78	..	8,320	7,502	1,825
May	3,014	1,161	1,986	79	225	107	..	6,572	7,996	1,853
June	2,810	1,203	1,657	79	225	109	..	6,083	7,802	1,852
1954-55—										
July	2,627	1,135	1,166	99	198	135	3	5,363	8,301	1,892
August	2,226	957	1,081	83	145	147	3	4,642	8,541	1,905
September ..	1,822	757	918	80	162	143	4	3,886	8,496	1,931
October	1,334	602	802	55	95	114	5	3,007	8,113	1,933
November ..	1,266	501	916	60	114	113	4	g2,975	8,169	1,931
December ..	1,179	480	1,228	64	136	73	3	3,163	7,890	1,935
January	1,248	437	2,165	67	144	52	4	4,117	7,495	1,999
February ..	1,132	363	2,371	57	147	46	3	4,119	7,862	2,028
March	1,240	286	2,347	43	131	35	2	h4,086	7,702	2,035
April	1,113	288	1,799	50	157	41	3	h3,453	7,599	2,076
May	1,049	335	1,140	62	171	32	4	g2,794	7,734	2,090
June	1,040	319	964	70	239	45	2	2,679	7,905	2,045
1955-56—										
July	1,068	335	615	55	268	67	2	2,410	8,111	2,007
August	899	367	539	49	248	83	2	g2,188	8,077	2,026
September ..	706	327	425	37	256	80	1	1,832	7,729	1,977
October	658	294	427	46	215	85	2	1,727	7,402	1,957
November ..	644	277	431	44	216	64	1	1,677	7,409	1,970
December ..	965	356	1,442	56	377	48	1	3,245	6,703	1,943
January	1,321	359	2,561	46	414	40	1	4,742	6,846	1,965
February ..	1,932	341	3,371	55	374	50	5	6,128	7,150	1,998
March	2,233	350	3,268	62	536	31	12	h6,494	6,855	1,966

(a) Last Saturday of month. (b) Excludes migrants. (c) Includes Australian Capital Territory prior to July, 1954. (d) Includes Northern Territory prior to July, 1954. (e) Included with New South Wales prior to July, 1954. (f) As furnished by the Department of Social Services. (g) Includes Northern Territory, 1. (h) Includes Northern Territory, 2.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS—continued.

NUMBER ADMITTED TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT AND AMOUNT PAID IN BENEFITS : AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Number Admitted to Unemployment Benefit.			Amount Paid in Benefits.				
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Unem- ployment.	Sickness.	Special—		Total.
						Migrants.	Ordinary.	
				£	£	£	£	£
Monthly Average—								
1947-48.. ..	2,273	116	2,389	30,802	65,944	1,319	3,391	101,456
1948-49.. ..	955	56	1,011	11,570	66,319	7,088	4,225	89,202
1949-50.. ..	10,854	2,571	13,425	105,506	68,001	35,361		208,868
1950-51.. ..	881	111	992	5,204	62,143	13,520	5,568	86,435
1951-52.. ..	1,771	520	2,291	15,584	59,157	6,911	2,319	83,971
1952-53.. ..	12,793	1,797	14,590	380,812	116,108	8,172	16,197	521,289
1953-54.. ..	4,368	810	5,178	208,788	139,633	4,561	25,639	378,621
1954-55.. ..	1,529	496	2,025	56,620	133,987	4,534	24,848	219,989
Monthly Total—								
1953-54—								
March	2,719	645	3,364	171,167	136,753	2,926	25,690	336,536
April	2,297	599	2,896	122,952	132,694	3,725	24,150	283,521
May	2,389	764	3,153	123,805	138,620	6,826	29,375	298,626
June	1,730	564	2,294	84,689	110,169	7,846	25,139	227,843
1954-55—								
July	1,756	708	2,464	83,605	138,866	8,748	26,518	257,737
August	1,147	524	1,671	69,633	127,933	4,748	23,468	225,782
September ..	927	428	1,355	57,986	148,570	3,185	25,293	235,034
October	1,022	486	1,508	44,162	123,395	1,738	20,449	189,744
November ..	842	352	1,194	46,670	146,493	5,362	26,107	224,632
December ..	986	365	1,351	36,282	129,836	3,335	24,382	193,835
January	3,248	521	3,769	58,126	135,073	5,146	20,940	219,285
February ..	2,148	463	2,611	59,842	121,882	8,397	20,648	210,769
March	2,590	616	3,206	63,793	145,720	2,844	28,597	240,954
April	1,714	558	2,272	65,445	142,051	4,112	25,774	237,382
May	927	453	1,380	54,011	126,048	5,414	28,154	213,627
June	1,043	476	1,519	39,883	121,975	1,390	27,838	191,086
1955-56—								
July	1,076	638	1,714	37,265	127,405	3,745	32,994	201,409
August	681	363	1,044	30,073	127,300	3,404	25,402	186,179
September ..	607	276	883	29,572	154,338	4,307	32,351	220,568
October	706	363	1,069	23,563	121,599	11,343	16,726	173,231
November ..	663	338	1,001	22,461	120,050	4,763	24,762	172,036
December ..	2,225	449	2,674	23,298	121,350	2,603	23,519	170,770
January	3,733	439	4,172	52,714	139,321	6,945	26,958	225,938
February ..	5,851	850	6,701	80,469	119,925	7,737	22,343	230,474
March	3,776	816	4,592	90,790	123,763	3,278	24,865	242,696

VALUE OF RETAIL SALES IN AUSTRALIA(a): COMMODITY GROUPS.

The figures in the table below relate to goods (as distinct from services, accommodation, entertainments, meals, &c.) sold to the public by establishments selling retail goods from fixed premises (shops, rooms, kiosks, yards) and include the retail sales of establishments principally engaged in wholesale, manufacturing or servicing activities. The table contains particulars of retail sales of goods for the years 1947-48 to 1954-55 on a comparable basis throughout. The figures for the years 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1952-53 were obtained from Censuses taken in respect of those years, whereas figures for the other periods shown are estimates based on sample surveys. To provide comparability with the 1952-53 Census an adjustment has been made in the figures originally published for hardware, china and glassware for 1947-48 and subsequent periods.

(£ million.)

Period.	Groceries.	Butchers' Meat.	Other Food. (b)	Beer, Wine and Spirits.	Clothing, Drapery and Footwear.	Hardware.(c)	Electrical Goods.	Furniture.	Other Goods.	Total (Excl. Motor Vehicles, &c.)	Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, &c.(d)
Quarterly Average—											
1947-48 ..	31.9	39.4		(c)	49.8	(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	207.3	29.4
1948-49 ..	35.9	16.3	29.1	23.8	59.5	13.9	8.5	11.6	42.0	240.6	41.5
1949-50 ..	40.2	18.9	32.9	26.2	66.0	16.6	10.9	13.6	51.1	276.4	68.3
1950-51 ..	46.5	23.1	38.9	30.8	82.1	22.8	16.2	19.2	63.1	342.7	95.5
1951-52 ..	58.2	29.7	47.0	38.5	87.9	27.4	19.4	19.0	76.9	404.0	108.3
1952-53 ..	65.4	32.0	51.7	43.3	88.8	28.5	19.0	18.2	78.9	425.8	104.3
1953-54 ..	68.8	33.4	55.9	46.7	96.9	31.2	22.8	20.3	84.2	460.2	123.1
1954-55 ..	77.2	36.9	61.6	50.5	104.9	35.4	25.5	21.6	91.5	505.1	145.4
Quarterly Total—											
1951-52—											
Sept. Qtr. ..	53.2	27.9	43.2	32.3	83.4	26.2	20.5	20.7	71.1	378.5	105.6
Dec. „ ..	59.9	29.5	48.9	41.7	97.7	29.6	22.2	20.5	87.3	437.3	115.7
Mar. „ ..	58.2	30.1	48.4	41.3	77.9	26.7	18.2	17.2	74.2	392.2	108.5
June „ ..	61.6	31.2	47.3	38.6	92.6	27.1	16.6	17.7	74.9	407.6	103.5
1952-53—											
Sept. „ ..	62.8	31.8	48.6	38.7	80.3	26.4	16.9	17.3	74.7	397.5	95.2
Dec. „ ..	68.9	32.1	54.2	47.4	100.6	30.9	22.5	19.8	89.4	465.8	110.3
Mar. „ ..	63.2	31.2	51.8	44.9	76.5	27.2	18.4	17.5	75.0	405.7	101.5
June „ ..	66.6	32.7	52.2	42.0	97.7	29.3	18.0	18.2	76.4	433.1	110.3
1953-54—											
Sept. „ ..	67.9	33.4	53.0	41.9	88.0	29.6	20.1	19.6	78.9	432.4	113.5
Dec. „ ..	72.9	33.8	58.5	51.9	111.4	34.9	28.0	22.8	96.6	510.8	127.2
Mar. „ ..	65.6	32.7	56.0	48.3	82.7	28.7	22.1	18.1	78.6	432.8	117.7
June „ ..	68.7	34.0	56.2	44.6	105.3	31.5	21.0	20.5	82.8	464.6	133.9
1954-55—											
Sept. „ ..	72.5	36.2	58.2	45.4	96.9	34.1	23.3	21.8	82.4	470.8	141.1
Dec. „ ..	81.1	36.9	64.1	53.7	119.8	38.8	30.6	24.5	105.1	554.6	148.8
Mar. „ ..	75.1	36.2	62.1	53.3	89.4	33.1	25.4	19.1	86.7	480.4	137.8
June „ ..	80.0	38.2	62.2	49.6	113.4	35.0	23.2	21.4	91.5	514.5	153.7
1955-56—											
Sept. „ ..	81.6	39.1	64.2	49.0	102.1	37.4	27.4	23.5	92.9	517.2	167.9
Dec. „ ..	89.4	39.2	71.2	57.3	128.5	43.8	34.7	26.8	117.3	608.2	175.7

(a) Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. (b) Includes fresh fruit and vegetables, confectionery, soft drinks, ice cream, cakes, pastry, cooked provisions, fish, &c., but excludes some delivered milk and bread. (c) Excludes basic building materials (e.g. timber, roofing tiles, bricks, &c.). (d) Excludes farm machinery and implements, earth-moving equipment, &c. (e) Comparable commodity dissections for 1947-48 not collected.

RETAIL SALES : HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FINANCE COMPANIES.

The following statistics relate to businesses which finance the sale of goods by retail but do not retail goods themselves. Particulars of agreements originally made between retailers and customers and subsequently assigned to finance companies are not included in agreements made during each quarter nor, up to 31st December, 1953, in balances outstanding. Commencing March, 1954, however, details of balances outstanding on agreements assigned to finance companies were collected and are included in the figures from that date.

AGREEMENTS MADE DURING EACH QUARTER : AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Number of Agreements.	Value of Goods.(a)		Amount Financed.(b)		Average Proportion of Hire Purchase Sale Financed.(b) (Per cent.)
		Total. (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. (£)	Total. (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. (£)	
MOTOR VEHICLES, TRACTORS, ETC.						
Quarterly Average— 1954-55	68,180	47,183	692	27,253	400	58
Quarterly Total— 1954—December	69,157	r47,368	685	27,498	398	58
1955—March	64,136	r44,336	691	25,587	399	58
June	72,738	r51,896	713	29,929	411	58
September	80,086	55,878	698	33,019	412	59
December	77,376	54,699	707	32,554	421	60
PLANT AND MACHINERY.						
Quarterly Average— 1954-55	3,688	2,320	629	1,414	383	61
Quarterly Total— 1954—December	3,975	r2,510	632	1,543	388	61
1955—March	3,841	r2,676	696	1,627	424	61
June	3,575	2,309	646	1,383	387	60
September	4,258	2,738	643	1,666	391	61
December	5,142	3,644	709	r2,271	442	62
HOUSEHOLD AND PERSONAL GOODS.						
Quarterly Average— 1954-55	157,478	12,014	76	9,731	62	82
Quarterly Total— 1954—December	172,567	13,699	79	11,027	64	80
1955—March	153,704	12,476	81	10,147	66	81
June	152,194	r11,044	73	8,946	59	81
September	157,139	11,654	74	9,505	60	82
December	181,039	14,524	80	r11,846	65	82
TOTAL (ALL GOODS).						
Quarterly Average— 1954-55	229,346	61,517	268	38,398	167	62
Quarterly Total— 1954—December	245,699	63,577	259	40,068	163	63
1955—March	221,681	59,488	268	37,361	169	63
June	228,507	r65,249	286	40,258	176	62
September	241,483	70,270	291	44,190	183	63
December	263,557	72,867	276	46,671	177	64

(a) Value at net cash or list price (excluding hiring charges and insurance).

(b) Excludes hiring charges and insurance.

For meaning of symbol r, see page 1.

RETAIL SALES: HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FINANCE COMPANIES—continued.

BALANCES OUTSTANDING AT END OF EACH QUARTER.(a)

(INCLUDING HIRING CHARGES AND INSURANCE.)

(£'000.)

At end of—	New South Wales.(b)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(c)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
1953—							
December Quarter(d)	42,656	25,167	18,392	10,869	8,086	3,865	109,035
1954—							
March „ (d) ..	46,413	27,623	19,694	11,742	8,647	4,221	118 340
June „ ..	50,144	30,819	22,361	13,116	9,807	4,751	130,998
September „ ..	53,539	34,248	24,041	14,768	11,059	5,247	142,902
December „ ..	60,195	38,859	26,196	16,546	12,207	5,854	159,857
1955—							
March „ ..	64,033	41,773	27,081	17,205	12,779	6,363	169,234
June „ ..	67,659	44,497	28,638	18,078	13,725	6,925	179,522
September „ ..	73,524	48,178	30,538	19,443	14,645	7,358	193,686
December „ ..	77,582	52,969	31,977	21,047	15,564	7,797	206,936

(a) Balances on agreements entered into during the quarter or at any time previously.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(c) Includes Northern Territory.

(d) See letterpress at top of page 14.

WHOLESALE TRADE.

An indication of fluctuations in the value of wholesale trade is given by the returns made under the Sales Tax Acts. With certain specified exemptions, all goods sold by wholesale in Australia, including imports, are taxable. The returns do not relate to all wholesale trade, as vendors trading only in exempt goods are not required to furnish returns. They do not necessarily cover a constant proportion of all trade. The effects of legislation and administrative changes on the recorded values of taxable and exempt goods respectively are somewhat uncertain, but total recorded sales are affected in smaller degrees. Insufficient information is available to enable adjustment to be made to the crude figures on this account.

(£ million.)

Average Monthly Net Sales Recorded.				Month.	Monthly Taxable Net Sales at each Rate of Tax.(a)			Monthly Net Sales Recorded.		
Year.	Taxable Goods.	Exempt Goods.	Total.		10%	12½%	16½%	Taxable Goods.	Exempt Goods.	Total.
1936-37 ..	15.4	21.8	37.2	1954-55—						
1937-38 ..	16.9	23.6	40.5	Dec. ..	16.3	38.0	16.9	71.2	141.3	212.5
1938-39 ..	16.4	23.4	39.8	Jan. ..	10.0	26.5	10.5	47.0	117.3	164.3
				Feb. ..	12.1	32.1	15.9	60.1	137.0	197.1
1946-47 ..	24.6	42.2	66.8	Mar. ..	13.2	35.6	18.2	67.0	157.6	224.6
1947-48 ..	26.2	53.3	79.5	Apr. ..	11.5	32.2	16.2	59.9	140.9	200.8
1948-49 ..	30.3	63.1	93.4	May ..	13.8	35.6	18.4	67.8	157.8	225.6
1949-50 ..	38.0	72.2	110.2	June ..	12.3	34.4	17.4	64.1	161.3	225.4
1950-51 ..	45.6	94.9	140.5	1955-56—						
1951-52 ..	52.0	110.1	162.1	July ..	11.7	32.7	17.2	61.6	145.4	207.0
1952-53 ..	46.3	111.8	158.1	August ..	13.9	37.2	19.1	70.2	160.3	230.5
1953-54 ..	57.3	122.2	179.5	Sept. ..	14.5	37.8	19.1	71.4	158.4	229.8
1954-55 ..	63.9	141.6	205.5	Oct. r ..	15.5	39.5	17.9	72.9	151.8	224.7
				Nov. (b)r ..	16.3	41.4	21.0	78.7	165.0	243.7
				Dec. (b) ..	17.7	40.0	17.7	75.4	144.0	219.4

(a) On 19th August, 1954, the special rate of 10 per cent. was imposed.

(b) Preliminary and partly estimated.

For meaning of symbols r, —, see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE: ECONOMIC CLASSES.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Producers' Materials for use in—										Fuels and Lubricants. (c)		Auxiliary Aids to Production.		Munitions and War Stores.	
	Building and Construction.	Rural Industries.		Manufacturing.		Total.										
				Motor Vehicle Assembly. <i>ab</i>	Other.											
								Class IA.	Class IB.	Class Ic (5).						
Class II.	Class III.	Class VII.														
Monthly Average—		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		
1936-37 ..	347	4.0	143	1.7	(d)	(d)	3,435	39.9	3,925	45.6	621	7.2	408	4.7	31	0.4
1937-38 ..	472	4.4	155	1.5			4,285	40.2	4,912	46.1	784	7.4	470	4.4	36	0.4
1938-39 ..	385	4.1	171	1.8			3,599	38.2	4,155	44.1	736	7.8	469	4.9	88	0.9
1948-49 ..	1,194	3.5	318	0.9	(d)	(d)	13,545	39.2	15,057	43.6	3,037	8.8	2,212	6.4	257	0.7
1949-50 ..	2,026	4.5	431	1.0			14,438	32.3	16,895	37.8	3,852	8.6	2,390	5.4	129	0.3
1950-51 ..	3,408	5.5	415	0.7			23,426	37.9	27,249	44.1	5,032	8.1	2,831	4.6	94	0.2
1951-52 ..	4,898	5.6	518	0.6	(d)	(d)	34,630	39.6	40,046	45.8	5,902	6.7	5,236	6.0	1,132	1.3
1952-53 ..	1,482	3.5	368	0.9			14,620	34.4	16,470	38.8	5,313	12.5	1,894	4.5	755	1.8
1953-54 ..	1,946	3.4	441	0.8			20,691	36.6	23,078	40.8	5,633	10.0	1,891	3.3	351	0.6
1954-55 ..	3,044	4.3	517	0.7			27,158	38.7	30,719	43.7	4,790	6.9	2,366	3.4	728	0.9
Monthly Total—																
1953-54—					(d)	(d)										
March ..	2,043	3.0	519	0.8			25,655	38.4	28,217	42.2	6,667	10.0	1,870	2.8	272	0.4
April ..	2,158	4.1	518	1.0			18,318	35.2	20,994	40.3	4,934	9.4	1,500	2.9	149	0.3
May ..	2,421	4.0	410	0.7			22,421	37.3	25,252	42.0	6,532	10.9	2,350	3.9	321	0.5
June ..	2,528	3.3	641	0.8			30,623	40.3	33,792	44.4	4,916	6.5	2,666	3.5	282	0.4
1954-55—					(d)	(d)										
July ..	3,291	4.7	659	0.9			27,176	38.7	31,126	44.3	5,045	7.2	2,172	3.1	164	0.2
August ..	2,886	4.3	721	1.1			22,018	33.1	25,625	38.5	5,968	9.0	3,527	5.3	245	0.4
September ..	2,836	4.0	539	0.8			26,843	38.2	30,218	43.0	4,972	7.1	2,540	3.6	212	0.3
October ..	2,901	4.5	619	1.0			24,525	37.9	28,045	43.4	4,129	6.4	2,405	3.7	177	0.3
November ..	2,404	4.4	407	0.7			20,117	36.6	22,928	41.7	4,332	7.9	1,600	2.9	354	0.6
December ..	3,354	5.2	343	0.6			24,863	38.8	28,560	44.6	4,524	7.1	1,875	2.9	490	0.8
January ..	3,235	4.3	317	0.4	(d)	(d)	29,734	39.1	33,286	43.8	5,916	7.8	1,870	2.5	415	0.5
February ..	2,877	4.1	540	0.8			28,521	40.8	31,938	45.7	4,431	6.4	2,120	3.1	450	0.6
March ..	3,336	4.3	706	0.9			32,439	41.8	36,481	47.0	4,632	6.0	2,790	3.6	620	0.8
April ..	2,914	4.0	470	0.6			28,839	39.4	32,223	44.0	4,970	6.8	1,907	2.6	1,483	2.1
May ..	3,216	4.1	421	0.5			31,243	39.6	34,880	44.2	4,820	6.1	3,063	3.9	1,817	2.3
June ..	3,282	4.4	459	0.6			29,578	39.6	33,319	44.6	3,738	5.0	2,525	3.4	2,310	3.0
1955-56 p—							(e)		(e)(f)				(g)			
July ..	2,819	4.6	650	1.1	4,421	7.2	23,176	37.7	31,066	50.6	5,110	8.3	3,218	5.2	819	1.3
August ..	3,035	4.3	695	1.0	5,524	7.7	26,569	37.4	35,823	50.4	5,792	8.1	2,098	3.0	1,418	1.9
September ..	2,786	3.7	564	0.8	6,566	8.7	26,122	34.9	36,038	48.1	3,752	5.0	3,551	4.7	860	1.2
October ..	2,749	4.0	470	0.7	4,587	6.7	26,365	38.7	34,171	50.1	4,816	7.0	2,232	3.3	733	1.1
November ..	3,084	4.2	326	0.5	5,932	8.1	27,732	37.6	37,075	50.4	2,863	3.9	2,371	3.2	815	1.1
December ..	2,603	4.1	679	1.1	4,954	7.8	24,205	38.2	32,441	51.2	3,571	5.7	1,944	3.1	960	1.5
January(h) ..	2,446	3.8	483	0.8	5,241	8.3	23,944	37.7	32,114	50.6	3,811	6.0	1,661	2.6	876	1.4
February(h) ..	1,905	3.2	412	0.7	5,076	8.6	23,858	40.4	31,251	52.9	2,971	5.0	2,028	3.4	839	1.4
March(h) ..	2,597	3.2	520	0.6	8,028	10.0	29,917	37.2	41,062	51.0	3,364	4.2	2,553	3.1	1,515	1.9

(a) Owing to insufficient information it is not possible to treat unassembled tractors and other machinery in a similar manner to motor vehicles and all such machinery is treated as capital equipment whether imported in an assembled or unassembled condition. (b) Including replacement parts. (c) Excludes crude petroleum which is included in class Ic (1-4). (d) Included in class Vb. (e) Prior to July, 1955 includes piece goods to be sold at retail which since July, 1955 have been recorded in class VI. E-J and paper to be sold solely for wrapping which since July, 1955 has been recorded in class III. (f) Prior to July excludes completely knocked down vehicles, components for the assembly of motor vehicles and replacement parts which since July, 1955 have been recorded in class Ic (5). (g) From July, 1955 includes a percentage for paper used solely for wrapping which was previously included in class Ic (1-4). (h) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, —, see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : ECONOMIC CLASSES—continued.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Capital Equipment.						Finished Consumer Goods.							
	Producers' Equipment.		Transport Equipment.				Food, Beverages and Tobacco.		Clothing and Accessories.		All Other.		Total.	
			Complete Road Vehicles and Assembled Chassis.		Railway Equipment Vessels and Civil Aircraft.									
	Class IV.		Class V. B.		Class V. A, C, D.		Class VI. A, B, C.		Class VI. D.		Class VI. E-J.		Class VI.	
Monthly Average—		%		%		%		%		%		%		%
1936-37 ..	884	10.3	872	10.2	146	1.7	516	6.0	46	0.5	1,157	13.4	1,719	19.9
1937-38 ..	1,149	10.9	1,161	11.0	205	1.9	531	5.0	68	0.6	1,299	12.3	1,898	17.9
1938-39 ..	1,104	11.7	899	9.5	119	1.3	564	6.0	84	0.9	1,217	12.9	1,865	19.8
1948-49 ..	3,409	9.9	4,231	12.2	355	1.0	1,619	4.7	614	1.8	3,714	10.9	5,947	17.4
1949-50 ..	5,297	11.9	8,643	19.3	497	1.1	2,163	4.8	578	1.3	4,233	9.5	6,974	15.6
1950-51 ..	6,679	10.8	9,245	15.0	1,137	1.8	2,873	4.7	745	1.2	5,896	9.5	9,514	15.4
1951-52 ..	9,960	11.4	10,942	12.5	1,661	1.9	3,074	3.5	1,149	1.3	8,377	9.6	12,600	14.4
1952-53 ..	8,409	19.7	3,569	8.3	1,703	4.0	1,917	4.5	130	0.3	2,369	5.6	4,416	10.4
1953-54 ..	9,474	16.8	5,769	10.2	1,552	2.7	2,658	4.7	446	0.8	5,697	10.1	8,801	15.6
1954-55 ..	10,289	14.8	7,377	10.5	1,824	2.6	3,236	4.6	614	0.9	8,138	11.7	11,988	17.2
Monthly Total—														
1953-54—														
March ..	10,794	16.1	6,155	9.2	1,939	2.9	2,816	4.2	798	1.2	7,360	11.0	10,974	16.4
April ..	10,632	20.4	5,009	9.6	1,312	2.5	2,520	4.8	562	1.1	4,517	8.7	7,599	14.6
May ..	8,929	14.8	7,220	12.0	1,315	2.2	1,959	3.3	447	0.7	5,819	9.7	8,225	13.7
June ..	11,554	15.2	8,770	11.5	2,398	3.2	3,084	4.0	444	0.6	8,100	10.7	11,628	15.3
1954-55—														
July ..	10,370	14.8	6,789	9.7	1,698	2.4	3,661	5.2	519	0.7	8,635	12.4	12,819	18.3
August ..	10,805	16.2	7,059	10.6	1,891	2.8	2,460	3.7	531	0.8	8,424	12.7	11,415	17.2
September	10,345	14.7	7,201	10.2	1,448	2.1	4,160	5.9	640	0.9	8,577	12.2	13,377	19.0
October ..	10,267	15.9	5,809	9.0	2,346	3.6	2,121	3.3	586	0.9	8,731	13.5	11,437	17.7
November	7,633	13.9	6,280	11.5	1,421	2.6	2,432	4.5	468	0.9	7,456	13.5	10,356	18.9
December	9,446	14.7	6,198	9.6	2,042	3.2	3,208	4.9	608	1.0	7,131	11.2	10,947	17.1
January ..	11,380	15.0	8,129	10.7	2,216	2.9	3,033	4.0	853	1.1	8,915	11.7	12,801	16.8
February	9,247	13.2	7,244	10.4	2,120	3.0	4,613	6.6	845	1.2	6,844	9.8	12,302	17.6
March ..	10,429	13.4	7,258	9.3	2,314	3.0	4,333	5.6	886	1.1	7,929	10.2	13,148	16.9
April ..	10,564	14.4	8,437	11.5	1,558	2.1	3,591	4.9	612	0.9	7,890	10.7	12,093	16.5
May ..	11,363	14.4	9,185	11.7	1,681	2.1	2,675	3.4	412	0.5	8,962	11.4	12,049	15.3
June ..	11,623	15.6	8,931	12.0	1,157	1.5	2,548	3.4	408	0.6	8,151	10.9	11,107	14.9
1955-56 p—			(a)								(b)			
July ..	8,657	14.1	1,586	2.6	1,897	3.1	1,219	2.0	403	0.7	7,461	12.1	9,083	14.8
August ..	9,779	13.8	1,750	2.5	2,209	3.1	1,776	2.5	521	0.7	9,923	14.0	12,220	17.2
September	12,573	16.8	2,042	2.7	1,546	2.1	2,822	3.8	572	0.7	11,147	14.9	14,536	19.4
October ..	10,298	15.1	1,623	2.4	1,388	2.0	2,713	4.0	596	0.9	9,645	14.1	12,954	19.0
November	12,913	17.6	2,230	3.0	1,459	2.0	2,885	3.9	474	0.7	10,463	14.2	13,822	18.8
December	10,932	17.3	1,695	2.7	1,151	1.8	2,418	3.8	386	0.6	7,801	12.3	10,605	16.7
January(c)	10,566	16.7	2,126	3.4	1,337	2.1	2,116	3.3	522	0.8	8,298	13.1	10,936	17.2
February(c)	10,076	17.1	1,581	2.7	1,479	2.5	1,575	2.7	535	0.9	6,761	11.4	8,871	15.0
March(c)	13,354	16.6	2,064	2.6	3,096	3.8	3,126	3.9	766	1.0	9,598	11.9	13,490	16.8

(a) Prior to July, 1955 includes completely knocked down vehicles, components for the assembly of motor vehicles and replacement parts which since July, 1955 have been recorded in Class 1c. (b) From July, 1955, includes a percentage for piece goods to be sold at retail which was previously included in Class 1c (1-4). (c) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, —, —, see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : DEGREE OF MANUFACTURE.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Producers' Materials. (Class I.)			Finished Consumer Goods. (Class VI.)			Total Imports of Merchandise. (All Classes.)			
	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Total.
Monthly Average—										
1936-37 ..	1,024	373	2,528	45	303	1,371	1,069	1,505	6,032	8,606
1937-38 ..	1,241	449	3,222	48	300	1,550	1,289	1,796	7,530	10,615
1938-39 ..	1,100	351	2,704	55	309	1,501	1,155	1,627	6,653	9,435
1948-49 ..	3,273	2,059	9,725	133	899	4,915	3,406	6,738	24,361	34,505
1949-50 ..	3,916	1,777	11,202	180	1,277	5,517	4,096	7,851	32,730	44,677
1950-51 ..	7,007	3,178	17,075	273	1,600	7,636	7,280	10,954	43,547	61,781
1951-52 ..	7,788	4,788	27,469	359	1,446	10,795	8,147	13,933	65,399	87,479
1952-53 ..	4,712	2,195	9,563	251	1,182	2,983	4,963	9,443	28,123	42,529
1953-54 ..	6,260	3,189	13,629	385	1,471	6,945	6,645	11,384	38,520	56,549
1954-55 ..	8,818	4,986	16,748	428	2,082	9,478	9,246	13,167	47,668	70,081
Monthly Total—										
1953-54—										
March ..	7,703	3,740	16,774	509	1,622	8,843	8,212	13,268	45,408	66,888
April ..	7,008	2,519	11,467	491	1,475	5,633	7,499	9,894	34,736	52,129
May ..	6,828	3,669	14,755	256	1,174	6,795	7,084	12,468	40,592	60,144
June ..	8,647	4,954	20,191	474	1,840	9,314	9,121	13,173	53,712	76,006
1954-55—										
July ..	9,379	4,937	16,810	561	2,473	9,795	9,940	13,734	46,509	70,183
August ..	6,402	3,762	15,461	314	1,440	9,661	6,716	12,513	47,306	66,535
September ..	7,612	4,834	17,772	391	2,998	9,988	8,003	14,169	48,141	70,313
October ..	7,248	5,424	15,373	399	1,079	9,959	7,647	11,873	45,095	64,615
November ..	6,243	4,396	12,289	376	1,344	8,636	6,619	11,154	37,131	54,904
December ..	8,997	4,126	15,437	333	2,295	8,319	9,330	12,149	42,603	64,082
January ..	8,058	5,548	19,680	522	1,534	10,745	8,580	14,444	52,989	76,013
February ..	10,559	4,415	16,964	342	3,370	8,590	10,901	13,448	45,503	69,852
March ..	11,587	5,737	19,157	424	3,260	9,464	12,011	15,025	50,636	77,672
April ..	9,740	5,321	17,162	484	2,370	9,239	10,224	13,960	49,051	73,235
May ..	10,206	6,243	18,431	383	1,719	9,947	10,589	14,196	54,073	78,858
June ..	9,789	5,091	18,439	605	1,108	9,394	10,394	11,333	52,983	74,710
1955-56 p—										
July ..	9,709	3,716	17,641	238	361	8,484	9,947	10,226	41,263	61,436
August ..	10,834	4,287	20,702	515	450	11,255	11,349	11,750	47,990	71,089
September ..	8,169	4,650	23,219	348	1,646	12,542	8,517	11,503	54,878	74,898
October ..	8,226	5,623	20,322	341	1,638	10,975	8,567	13,324	46,324	68,215
November ..	10,787	4,675	21,613	571	1,473	11,815	11,358	10,384	51,806	73,548
December ..	10,549	4,241	17,651	233	1,450	8,922	10,782	10,481	42,036	63,299
January(a) ..	9,441	4,241	18,432	615	759	9,562	10,056	9,975	43,396	63,427
February(a) ..	10,492	4,259	16,500	221	930	7,720	10,713	9,268	39,115	59,096
March(a) ..	13,331	4,719	23,012	676	1,744	11,070	14,007	11,392	55,099	80,498

Note.—Class II. consists entirely of goods "simply transformed", and Classes IV., V. and VII. entirely of goods "more elaborately transformed". Class III. is about equally divided between goods "simply" and "more elaborately" transformed.

(a) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Wool.	Wheat and Flour.	Butter.	Sugar and Sugar Syrups.	Meats.	Hides and Skins.	Lead.	Dried Fruits.	Fresh Fruits.	Total Exports of Merchan- dise.
Monthly Average—										
1936-37.. ..	5,209	2,029	734	309	861	609	402	172	165	12,316
1937-38.. ..	3,915	2,245	898	336	1,021	516	409	224	171	11,719
1938-39.. ..	3,561	1,106	1,074	348	982	342	356	239	169	10,128
1948-49.. ..	19,283	8,202	1,984	1,108	(a)2,388	1,017	1,856	288	260	45,092
1949-50.. ..	26,096	7,376	2,056	1,185	2,854	1,263	1,416	241	328	50,971
1950-51.. ..	52,779	8,921	1,539	1,240	2,533	2,272	1,796	389	477	81,591
1951-52.. ..	26,953	7,359	383	586	2,957	1,428	2,156	472	572	55,437
1952-53.. ..	33,576	7,449	1,675	1,805	5,481	1,677	2,116	669	791	70,708
1953-54.. ..	34,202	5,053	1,338	2,639	4,816	1,620	2,004	617	774	67,655
1954-55.. ..	29,426	5,461	2,049	2,604	5,290	1,642	2,070	703	731	63,170
Monthly Total—										
1953-54—										
March	48,981	4,507	1,850	1,726	3,629	1,830	2,896	32	1,454	85,238
April	34,935	2,529	1,971	1,475	3,444	1,571	1,602	784	3,270	65,279
May	23,830	5,188	1,404	144	4,469	1,643	1,622	1,471	2,597	57,829
June	25,272	4,250	797	479	5,201	1,625	1,943	943	770	55,096
1954-55—										
July	21,295	3,820	374	1,977	6,114	1,709	1,396	1,312	350	52,020
August	8,947	4,768	401	4,226	5,858	1,371	3,663	1,301	165	43,912
September	21,003	3,940	1,084	4,809	6,083	2,059	1,682	766	67	54,769
October	39,281	5,303	1,945	2,983	6,081	1,817	2,181	845	143	72,656
November	25,726	4,338	1,567	1,560	4,822	1,069	1,942	118	116	49,926
December	43,569	7,232	4,193	3,546	8,340	2,146	2,455	400	114	84,153
January	30,442	4,944	3,345	2,812	5,592	1,382	1,885	265	36	63,618
February	32,359	8,207	3,194	3,190	4,921	1,778	1,368	363	239	67,251
March	40,104	6,250	1,722	1,364	3,845	1,902	3,122	283	1,008	77,007
April	28,609	5,220	1,128	2,247	3,388	1,139	1,152	510	2,468	56,904
May	29,030	5,701	2,658	1,619	4,568	1,936	1,494	944	2,448	66,839
June	32,743	5,806	2,994	919	3,868	1,396	2,496	1,334	1,617	68,985
1955-56p—										
July	26,899	4,473	1,504	1,183	r4,605	1,637	2,201	1,482	588	r60,885
August	r11,262	5,653	1,376	2,111	r5,590	2,271	2,376	1,004	308	r48,732
September	17,512	4,569	1,068	3,267	4,863	1,988	2,896	958	122	r51,434
October	r30,488	r4,582	3,399	2,267	r6,477	1,668	r1,799	211	143	r65,612
November	r38,005	r5,517	3,689	3,643	r8,334	r1,943	2,743	126	195	r78,606
December	37,222	3,823	4,297	1,608	7,916	2,130	2,035	534	56	73,197
January(b)	23,490	4,920	3,224	1,471	r5,091	r1,556	1,379	131	19	55,583
February(b)	8,231	2,754	106	1,033	995	456	283	14	50	20,369
March(b)	40,181	8,387	3,277	1,955	3,699	2,211	2,147	79	713	77,728

(a) Prior to July, 1948, included soups (1948-49 monthly average exports £92,000).

(b) Affected by Industrial Dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, r, —, see page 1.

EXPORT PRICE INDEXES.

These index numbers are compiled from the prices of 20 commodities which normally constitute about 80 per cent. of all exports. For some metals and for wheat (from July, 1945 to September, 1951), the index of prices is deduced from average value of current sales or shipments and hence shows some irregularity.

SIMPLE AGGREGATIVE INDEX : FIXED WEIGHTS.

In this index the weights are the average annual exports of each commodity (production in the case of gold) during the three years 1933-34 to 1935-36.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.		Wool.	Wheat. (a)	Butter.	Metals. (b)	Meats. (c)	Sugar.	Dried Fruits. (d)	Tallow.	Hides. (e)	Gold. (f)	All Groups.	
												Excl. Gold.	Incl. Gold.
Percentage Distribution of Base Aggregate	(g)	45.63	17.06	11.36	6.83	6.63	2.40	1.81	0.64	0.66	6.98	..	100.00
	(h)	49.05	18.34	12.21	7.34	7.13	2.58	1.94	0.69	0.72	..	100.00	..
1936-37	..	122	123	92	120	98	104	103	122	113	99	116	115
1937-38	..	99	111	107	96	106	92	103	100	100	98	102	102
1938-39	..	79	66	101	84	96	104	94	78	87	103	82	83
1948-49	..	365	413	233	478	171	343	162	499	421	122	348	332
1949-50	..	473	400	250	421	196	369	176	400	479	164	399	383
1950-51	..	999	432	271	689	209	410	226	356	752	176	690	654
1951-52	..	564	436	291	811	263	464	302	451	486	184	495	473
1952-53	..	616	445	313	504	314	501	297	358	369	186	505	483
1953-54	..	615	411	325	450	338	479	287	321	336	179	496	474
1954-55	..	538	357	313	511	344	445	267	349	218	178	450	431
1953-54—													
March	..	581	399	325	440	340	461	281	355	327	176	476	456
April	.. (i)	596	381	325	467	340	461	281	364	300	176	482	461
May	..	618	372	325	474	340	461	281	369	281	178	492	470
June	..	622	369	325	484	340	448	281	359	278	178	494	472
1954-55—													
July	.. (i)	622	359	313	475	340	448	278	354	264	178	490	468
August	..	566	358	313	475	340	448	262	350	254	178	461	442
September	..	566	355	313	498	340	448	261	350	224	178	462	442
October	..	536	356	313	524	340	468	260	350	216	178	450	431
November	..	513	358	313	518	340	468	261	350	204	179	439	421
December	..	532	359	313	512	384	468	263	350	197	178	451	432
January	..	520	360	313	516	367	430	266	350	200	178	444	425
February	..	528	356	313	522	346	430	267	350	200	178	446	427
March	..	528	356	313	523	329	430	270	350	212	178	446	426
April	..	520	354	313	525	324	434	271	350	223	178	441	422
May	..	520	354	313	520	332	434	268	345	216	178	441	422
June	..	505	355	313	528	343	434	279	342	212	178	435	417
1955-56—													
July	.. (i)	505	352	313	538	359	468	266	342	225	178	437	419
August	..	453	351	313	538	365	468	266	341	234	178	411	395
September	..	437	334	313	545	398	468	278	344	235	178	404	388
October	..	437	329	337	543	408	454	282	351	238	178	406	390
November	..	437	323	364	549	383	454	284	366	227	178	407	391
December	..	453	315	368	575	p364	454	283	365	232	178	p414	p398
January	..	p460	p313	361	590	p348	p441	p285	p356	239	178	p416	p400
February	..	p460	p311	283	592	p331	p441	p288	p364	240	178	p411	p395
March	..	p453	p313	304	593	p322	p441	p292	p364	247	178	p404	p388

(a) From October, 1951, to July, 1953, the prices used for wheat were the estimated average realizations after weighting prices of quota and non-quota wheat. Prices adopted for months since August, 1953, are derived from available information of current sales.

(b) Silver, copper, tin, zinc, lead.

(c) Beef, lamb, mutton, pork.

(d) Sultanias, lexias, currants.

(e) Cattle hides, calf skins.

(f) Where Australian gold has been sold on the overseas premium markets such price has been used in the index.

(g) For all Groups

(including Gold)—applicable from 1936-37.

(h) For all Groups (excluding Gold)—applicable from 1936-37.

(i) Nominal.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

EXPORT PRICE INDEXES—continued.

RECENT TRENDS—EXPORT PRICE INDEX—WOOL AND "OTHER GROUPS".

Reference to the group indexes in the table on page 20 hereof shows the great fluctuations and the wide dispersion of prices of export commodities in recent years. In particular, very great movements upwards and downwards have occurred in the price of wool. Since wool is a predominant export (and comprises 46 per cent. of the Base Aggregate of the index) fluctuations in wool prices obscure the effects which movements in prices of the other components have on the All Groups index. For purposes of comparison they are shown separately below.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	1948-49			1949-50.			1950-51.			1951-52.		
	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.
July	a351	316	332	a339	277	305	a592	333	451	a717	400	544
August	a351	313	330	a347	284	313	864	340	579	551	400	468
September ..	355	308	329	339	292	314	890	355	599	498	400	445
October	328	314	320	392	305	345	890	360	602	686	403	532
November ..	366	313	337	419	305	357	965	366	639	603	398	492
December ..	400	308	350	456	307	375	973	366	643	581	403	484
January	400	310	351	562	310	425	1,252	368	771	566	402	477
February ..	411	305	353	536	315	416	1,339	369	811	520	402	456
March	a411	304	353	524	316	411	1,437	377	860	460	400	427
April	332	294	311	a554	324	429	1,094	384	708	475	397	432
May	336	291	311	611	328	457	973	385	653	543	385	457
June	339	288	311	592	331	450	717	383	535	566	376	463
Average of Year	365	305	332	473	308	383	999	365	654	564	397	473

Period	1952-53.			1953-54.			1954-55.			1955-56.		
	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.
July	a566	381	465	a641	369	493	a622	338	468	a505	347	419
August	a566	380	465	a634	367	488	566	338	442	453	347	395
September ..	551	379	457	626	365	484	566	339	442	437	347	388
October	588	370	469	634	363	486	536	344	431	437	351	390
November ..	588	368	469	634	360	485	513	343	421	437	352	391
December ..	618	376	486	611	358	473	532	348	432	453	p352	p398
January	618	376	486	603	354	468	520	345	425	p460	p349	p400
February ..	626	371	487	581	350	455	528	342	427	p460	p340	p395
March	656	369	500	581	351	456	528	341	426	p453	p335	p388
April	671	363	503	a596	348	461	520	340	422			
May	701	361	516	618	346	470	520	340	422			
June	641	363	490	622	346	472	505	343	417			
Average of Year	616	371	483	615	356	474	538	342	431			

(a) Nominal.

NOTE.—The index numbers in the two preceding tables indicate satisfactorily the trends of export prices, but take no account of the relative quantities actually sold at the different prices ruling during each month. The impact of the price movements on current sales is indicated more directly by the index numbers below. In computing these the "quantity multipliers" are the quantities actually exported in the months (or periods) to which the index numbers relate. The index numbers for the most recent available month are :—

All Groups.	Month of March.		Nine months ended March.	
	1955.	1956.	1955.	1956.
Excluding Wool	100	98	100	101
Including Wool	100	89	100	91

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

WHOLESALE PRICE (BASIC MATERIALS AND FOODSTUFFS) INDEX.

Commodities in this index are priced in their primary or basic form wherever possible. The prices used have in the main been obtained directly from manufacturers and merchants, and, with a few important exceptions, from Melbourne sources. Apart from locally-produced building materials and one or two minor commodities, however, the price movements may be taken as representative of variations in wholesale prices of basic materials in most Australian markets. The weighting system adopted is based on estimates of the average annual consumption of the commodities in Australia during the years 1928-29 to 1934-35 inclusive.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Basic Materials.							Food-stuffs and Tobacco.	Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.		
	Metals and Coal.	Oils, Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemicals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Materials.	Total.		Goods principally Imported (a)	Goods principally Home Produced.	Total All Groups.
1936-37 ..	96	99	118	99	111	99	99	97	99	98	98
1937-38 ..	101	101	100	100	97	104	102	100	102	100	101
1938-39 ..	103	100	82	101	92	97	99	103	99	102	101
1948-49 ..	185	173	342	159	130	198	188	175	201	173	181
1949-50 ..	214	184	434	187	143	225	214	198	223	198	205
1950-51 ..	256	196	641	242	292	268	264	232	256	242	246
1951-52 ..	343	220	577	314	298	370	321	281	288	305	300
1952-53 ..	392	234	607	350	224	404	350	294	292	331	320
1953-54 ..	388	222	566	323	191	363	332	313	271	343	321
1954-55 ..	391	214	510	314	246	372	330	311	277	338	320
1953-54—											
March ..	389	222	545	317	183	365	330	304	269	335	316
April ..	390	217	553	316	186	359	328	306	266	337	316
May ..	390	217	563	316	184	359	329	306	266	338	316
June ..	384	218	569	316	182	358	327	308	267	337	316
1954-55—											
July ..	384	217	569	313	183	358	327	308	266	337	316
August ..	384	216	529	313	205	358	325	308	267	336	316
September ..	385	216	527	313	232	365	327	308	271	336	317
October ..	385	211	505	313	240	365	325	303	269	332	313
November ..	393	211	491	314	240	365	327	305	277	331	315
December ..	393	212	507	315	225	365	328	307	277	333	317
January ..	394	215	501	315	237	365	329	305	279	331	316
February ..	395	215	505	315	257	373	332	313	281	338	322
March ..	396	214	507	315	264	381	334	319	282	344	326
April ..	397	214	496	315	271	387	335	314	283	341	324
May ..	396	214	497	315	294	389	337	318	283	344	326
June ..	396	214	485	315	306	398	338	324	287	348	330
1955-56—											
July ..	397	214	486	315	307	398	338	p331	p281	p357	p334
August ..	397	215	452	315	323	398	337	p329	p282	p354	p333
September ..	405	215	441	315	333	398	340	p329	p290	p352	p334
October ..	405	215	441	315	336	398	340	p325	p289	p350	p332
November ..	404	216	437	317	347	407	342	p331	p291	p355	p336
December ..	404	216	447	317	342	407	342	p326	p291	p352	p334
January ..	405	216	p453	317	330	407	p343	p327	p288	p354	p334
February ..	405	216	p453	317	325	408	p343	p318	p288	p347	p329

(a) Represents only such imported commodities as are included in the wholesale price index. This index does not measure changes in price of imports generally.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

(Base : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.		Australia.	Canada.	France.	India.	New Zealand.	South Africa.	Sweden.	United Kingdom.	U.S.A.
		Bureau of Census and Statistics.	Dominion Bureau of Statistics.	Inst. Nat. de la Stat.	Economic Adviser to the Government of India.	Census and Statistics Department.	Bureau of Census and Statistics.	Board of Trade.	Board of Trade.	Bureau of Labour Statistics. (a)
1936-37 ..	..	98	101	83	104	96	97	98	100	104
1937-38 ..	..	101	104	105	100	102	103	103	104	101
1938-39 ..	..	101	95	112	96	102	100	99	96	95
1950-51 ..	..	246	224	(b) 123	(c) 426	210	216	237	288	211
1951-52 ..	..	300	229	145	414	243	252	285	321	213
1952-53 ..	..	320	216	141	386	252	269	278	320	209
1953-54 ..	..	321	214	137	397	248	270	268	320	209
1954-55 ..	..	320	211	135	365	249	274	272	326	208
1955-56—										
August ..	..	p333	214	135	357	248	282	282	335	210
September ..	..	p334	216	137	353	250	283	283	335	211
October ..	..	p332	215	136	357	252	282	283	337	211
November ..	..	p336	215	137	365	251	284	287	340	210
December ..	..	p334	216	138	368		283	290	341	210
January ..	..	p334	217	139	376		284			212
February ..	..	p329			378					212

(a) New Series (linked as at January, 1947, to former series to show movement prior to that date). (b) New Series. Base: 1949 = 100. (c) "Sensitive Series" prior to July, 1947. Thereafter "General Purpose Series", on base: Year ended August, 1939 = 100.

RETAIL PRICE INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

(Base : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100 (a).)

Period.		Australia.	Canada.	New Zealand.	South Africa.	United Kingdom.(a)	United States of America.
		Bureau of Census and Statistics.	Dominion Bureau of Statistics.	Census and Statistics Department.	Bureau of Census and Statistics.	Ministry of Labour.	Bureau of Labour Statistics.
1936-37 ..	..	97.3	98	96	97	Base :	100
1937-38 ..	..	99.8	102	101	101	17th June,	101
1938-39 ..	..	102.9	100	103	102	1947=100.	99
1949-50 ..	..	166.9	160	146	159	(b) 113	166
1950-51 ..	..	190.6	172	159	168	118	178
1951-52 ..	..	233.7	186	176	182	(c) 131	186
1952-53 ..	..	255.0	184	185	194	139	189
1953-54 ..	..	262.2	184	195	199	140	190
1954-55 ..	..	264.4	185	201	204	145	190
1955-56—							
July ..	..	271.9	184	204	207	150	190
August ..	..		185		206	149	190
September ..	..		186		208	150	190
October ..	..	274.6	186	204	209	152	190
November ..	..		186		208	154	190
December ..	..		186		208	154	190
January ..	..	278.0	186	206	208	153	190
February ..	..		185		209		
March ..	..					

(a) For bases of series for the United Kingdom, see notes (b) and (c). (b) New series on base 17th June, 1947 = 100; cannot be linked to former series. (c) From the month of February, 1952, the new series on base 15th January, 1952 = 100 has been linked to former series on base 17th June, 1947 = 100.

For meaning of symbols p, —, see page 1.

"C" SERIES RETAIL PRICE INDEX AND WAGE-RATE INDEXES.

In the tables on this and the following page the index numbers have been recomputed uniformly to the base average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000 in order to facilitate comparisons with other data. The absolute index numbers differ, in consequence, from those appearing in other publications of the Bureau.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	Retail Price Indexes : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.					Weekly Wage-rate Indexes : Six States.	
	Food and Groceries.	Rent of 4 and 5 roomed houses.	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	Food, &c., Rent, Clothing and Miscellaneous ("C" Series).	Nominal Rates, Adult Males.	"Real" Wage, Adult Males. (a)
1936-37	963	968	976	996	973	949	976
1937-38	989	1,001	1,006	1,003	998	1,007	1,009
1938-39	1,048	1,031	1,018	1,001	1,029	1,044	1,015
1948-49	1,531	1,058	2,264	1,349	1,528	1,757	1,150
1949-50	1,664	1,063	2,626	1,443	1,669	1,913	1,146
1950-51	1,998	1,076	3,044	1,597	1,906	2,298	1,206
1951-52	2,694	1,104	3,623	1,898	2,337	2,806	1,201
1952-53	2,950	1,194	3,893	2,124	2,550	3,104	1,217
1953-54	3,073	1,255	3,938	2,148	2,622	3,207	1,223
1954-55	3,098	1,309	3,940	2,145	2,644	3,249	1,229
1950-51—							
March Quarter	2,048	1,084	3,040	1,630	1,932	2,367	1,225
June "	2,203	1,087	3,357	1,710	2,067	2,507	1,213
1951-52—							
September Quarter	2,444	1,091	3,463	1,787	2,191	2,629	1,200
December "	2,644	1,094	3,582	1,870	2,303	2,771	1,203
March "	2,751	1,105	3,658	1,905	2,366	2,878	1,216
June "	2,937	1,124	3,789	2,031	2,488	2,946	1,184
1952-53—							
September Quarter	2,966	1,156	3,808	2,103	2,524	3,054	1,210
December "	2,908	1,181	3,884	2,121	2,530	3,102	1,226
March "	2,943	1,212	3,912	2,134	2,558	3,110	1,216
June "	2,981	1,227	3,967	2,138	2,586	3,150	1,218
1953-54—							
September Quarter	3,073	1,235	3,946	2,141	2,618	3,195	1,220
December "	3,092	1,243	3,933	2,147	2,624	3,206	1,222
March "	3,070	1,255	3,946	2,157	2,624	3,213	1,224
June "	3,055	1,286	3,927	2,148	2,621	3,214	1,226
1954-55—							
September Quarter	3,037	1,301	3,924	2,145	2,618	3,213	1,227
December "	3,063	1,306	3,939	2,147	2,631	3,233	1,229
March "	3,124	1,310	3,934	2,132	2,649	3,269	1,234
June "	3,169	1,320	3,961	2,157	2,678	3,283	1,226
1955-56—							
September Quarter	3,265	1,330	3,965	2,169	2,719	3,299	1,213
December "	3,308	1,337	3,971	2,218	2,746	3,345	1,218
March "	3,348	1,415	3,965	2,227	2,780		

(a) Index of nominal weekly wage rates for adult males divided by the "C" Series Retail Price index number.

"C" SERIES RETAIL PRICE INDEX, HOURS AND WAGES.

(Hours and Wages relate to Adult Males.)

Particulars.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Six Capitals or Six States.
1955 : March Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	2,712	2,596	2,475	2,605	2,835	2,724	2,649
Nominal weekly wage rate(a) ..	3,369	3,211	3,129	3,165	3,290	3,366	3,269
"Real" " " " (a)(b)	1,242	1,237	1,264	1,215	1,160	1,236	1,234
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (c)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State " " " ..	(c) 243/-	(d) 235/-	(e) 225/-	(c) 231/-	(f) 246/6	(c) 242/-	..
1955 : June Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	2,733	2,627	2,488	2,653	2,897	2,750	2,678
Nominal weekly wage rate(a) ..	3,374	3,243	3,129	3,169	3,334	3,369	3,283
"Real" " " " (a)(b)	1,235	1,234	1,258	1,194	1,151	1,225	1,226
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (c)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State " " " ..	(c) 243/-	(d) 237/-	(e) 225/-	(c) 231/-	(f) 246/6	(c) 242/-	..
1955 : September Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	2,769	2,698	2,505	2,668	2,888	2,782	2,719
Nominal weekly wage rate(a) ..	3,379	3,265	3,154	3,174	3,391	3,373	3,299
"Real" " " " (a)(b)	1,220	1,210	1,259	1,190	1,174	1,212	1,213
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (c)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State " " " ..	(c) 243/-	(d) 240/-	(g) 227/-	(c) 231/-	(h) 252/5	(c) 242/-	..
1955 : December Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	2,787	2,747	2,507	2,691	2,902	2,832	2,746
Nominal weekly wage rate(a) ..	3,458	3,307	3,177	3,174	3,398	3,374	3,345
"Real" " " " (a)(b)	1,241	1,204	1,267	1,179	1,171	1,191	1,218
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (c)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State " " " ..	(d) 253/-	(d) 246/-	(i) 229/-	(c) 231/-	(h) 252/5	(c) 242/-	..
1956 : March Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	2,808	2,798	2,549	2,693	2,938	2,930	2,780
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (c)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State " " " ..	(d) 255/-	(d) 251/-	(i) 229/-	(c) 231/-	(j) 253/8	(d) 259/-	..

(a) Base : Weighted Average Six Capitals (Retail Prices) or Six States (Wages and Hours) Average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000. Retail price index numbers are for the capital cities. (b) Index of nominal weekly wage rates divided by "C" Series Retail Price Index Number.

(c) Automatic adjustments discontinued. The rates shown came into operation from beginning of first pay-period commencing August, 1953. (d) Payable as from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in the second month of the quarter shown.

(e) Payable as from 1st February, 1954.

(f) Payable as from 27th July, 1953.

(g) Payable as from 1st August, 1955.

(h) Payable as from 9th August, 1955.

(i) Payable as from 24th October, 1955.

(j) Payable as from 31st January, 1956.

INTERIM RETAIL PRICE INDEX.

The list of items covered by the Interim Index is representative of a high proportion of expenditure of wage earner households. It is more comprehensive than that of the "C" Series Index and some of the principal food weights and group weights differ substantially from those used in the "C" Series Index. The weighting pattern and the list of component items in the "C" Series Index relate to the pre-war pattern of wage earner expenditure and consumption, whilst those of the Interim Index relate to current conditions.

(Base of each Group : Year 1952-53 = 100.)

Period.	Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.				
	Food.	Clothing and Drapery.	Rent.	Other Items.	Total All Groups.
Year ended June—1951	67.9	78.1	90.3	76.3	74.9
1952	89.4	93.8	92.6	91.3	91.4
1953	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1954	103.7	101.6	105.0	100.9	102.5
1955	104.6	102.4	109.6	101.4	103.6
Quarter ended—					
1954—March	104.0	101.8	104.9	101.2	102.7
June	103.7	101.5	107.7	100.9	102.7
September	103.0	101.6	108.9	101.2	102.7
December	103.7	102.3	109.3	101.2	103.2
1955—March	105.3	102.4	109.7	101.2	103.8
June	106.4	103.3	110.5	101.9	104.7
September	108.2	103.3	111.4	102.8	105.7
December	109.0	103.4	112.0	106.2	107.0
1956—March	110.6	103.3	118.8	106.7	108.3

FARM PRODUCTION PRICE INDEXES.

The annual index numbers shown in the following table relate to average "prices" of farm products realized in the principal markets of Australia. The "price" data used are average unit values for the total quantities of the relevant commodities produced or marketed in each year and the index numbers therefore measure both the effects of changes in prices (as such) and of variations in the quality, type, usage, &c., of products marketed. The index numbers for any year relate to the average values of farm products produced or marketed in that year, irrespective of the periods in which payment is received by producers.

The index numbers shown below are the Revised Series (December, 1952) in which average quantities of each product marketed in the period 1946-47 to 1950-51 have been used as fixed weights.

The preliminary index numbers for 1954-55 are based mainly on the recorded or estimated movement in average values for the major farm products. They will be reviewed from time to time as further "price" data become available.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Year	Agriculture.	Pastoral.	Farmyard and Dairying.	All Farming.	Wool (Shorn and Dead).	Products Other than Wool.
1936-37	114	115	93	109	126	104
1937-38	98	98	102	99	95	100
1938-39	88	87	105	92	79	96
1946-47	194	182	157	185	187	185
1947-48	267	263	183	247	301	230
1948-49	234	313	197	260	366	225
1949-50	272	396	228	316	483	261
1950-51	291	818	258	505	1,098	308
1951-52	355	501	332	410	552	363
1952-53	364	531	387	440	623	379
1953-54	323	534	395	428	621	364
1954-55	325	495	371	406	540	362

SHARE PRICE INDEXES.

In comparing movements in the two sets of index numbers on this page, attention should be paid to differences in the methods by which they have been constructed, and in the nature of the companies and the types of shares included in each index. These are outlined in the footnotes to the table.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	New South Wales : Ordinary Shares.(a)							Queensland : Ordinary Shares.(b)		
	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	75 Companies (including 24 Miscellaneous).	34 Active shares in- cluded in foregoing. (c)	12 Industrials.	12 Financial and Trading.	24 Total of foregoing.
1936-37 ..	989	1,059	1,010	1,106	1,052	1,022	1,026	1,006	1,000	1,003
1937-38 ..	1,012	1,008	1,026	1,053	983	1,009	1,011	1,014	1,011	1,013
1938-39 ..	999	933	964	841	965	969	963	980	989	984
1948-49 ..	1,682	1,601	948	1,240	1,635	1,426	1,413	1,681	1,364	1,536
1949-50 ..	1,763	1,603	887	1,357	1,920	1,491	1,458	1,746	1,370	1,573
1950-51 ..	2,242	1,932	928	1,926	2,492	1,845	1,763	2,108	1,623	1,886
1951-52 ..	2,040	1,658	872	1,606	2,625	1,662	1,537	1,838	1,402	1,638
1952-53 ..	1,733	1,376	861	1,337	2,059	1,398	1,335	1,494	1,186	1,353
1953-54 ..	1,784	1,534	881	1,385	2,217	1,475	1,443	1,658	1,302	1,495
1954-55 ..	1,943	1,885	923	1,555	2,184	1,626	1,598	1,695	1,434	1,575
1953-54—										
March ..	1,805	1,554	927	1,386	2,372	1,508	1,475	1,667	1,326	1,511
April ..	1,778	1,566	921	1,392	2,143	1,483	1,457	1,664	1,341	1,516
May ..	1,793	1,611	895	1,445	2,187	1,499	1,479	1,659	1,351	1,517
June ..	1,830	1,650	897	1,498	2,143	1,516	1,493	1,667	1,358	1,525
1954-55—										
July ..	1,893	1,716	907	1,544	2,212	1,558	1,545	1,696	1,397	1,559
August ..	1,946	1,791	931	1,647	2,260	1,615	1,593	1,729	1,413	1,584
September	1,934	1,828	925	1,595	2,190	1,610	1,576	1,719	1,421	1,582
October..	1,907	1,832	900	1,491	2,196	1,593	1,554	1,697	1,430	1,575
November	1,887	1,825	895	1,446	2,159	1,577	1,545	1,668	1,423	1,556
December	1,878	1,842	894	1,485	2,120	1,578	1,560	1,672	1,445	1,568
January ..	1,925	1,853	928	1,541	2,162	1,615	1,600	1,675	1,463	1,578
February	1,958	1,874	966	1,553	2,199	1,640	1,625	1,677	1,481	1,587
March ..	1,964	1,940	961	1,553	2,206	1,651	1,629	1,678	1,443	1,570
April ..	1,960	1,973	924	1,544	2,188	1,655	1,632	1,684	1,415	1,560
May ..	2,018	2,005	922	1,563	2,160	1,682	1,647	1,710	1,410	1,572
June ..	2,047	2,147	929	1,699	2,157	1,737	1,666	1,739	1,463	1,612
1955-56—										
July ..	2,110	2,329	933	1,855	2,172	1,798	1,731	1,755	1,494	1,635
August ..	2,117	2,267	929	1,813	2,223	1,789	1,719	1,809	1,499	1,674
September	2,074	2,181	950	1,771	2,163	1,752	1,687	1,721	1,494	1,617
October..	2,082	2,160	939	1,808	2,157	1,753	1,681	1,694	1,468	1,590
November	2,044	2,147	922	1,768	2,133	1,727	1,648	1,699	1,473	1,596
December	2,039	2,189	900	1,780	2,147	1,734	1,655	1,701	1,477	1,598
January ..	2,059	2,235	854	1,782	2,169	1,746	1,669	1,736	1,489	1,622
February	2,043	2,230	842	1,780	2,159	1,735	1,659	1,746	1,469	1,619
March ..	2,006	2,169	845	1,729	2,079	1,700	1,609			

(a) Compiled by the New South Wales Government Statistician. The index numbers are based on the prices of the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales. They represent unweighted averages of the mean monthly prices per £1 of paid-up capital. Adjustments are made where capital is written off or bonus shares issued. Recomputed from original base, par values.

(b) Compiled by the Queensland Bureau of Industry. The index numbers are based on the prices of the ordinary shares of 21 representative Queensland companies, and the preference shares of three companies whose ordinary shares are inactive. The index numbers represent unweighted averages. Mean monthly values are used. Recomputed from original base, April, 1928.

(c) These shares relate to leading companies and do not include bank shares or mining shares.

COMPARISON OF PRICE INDEXES.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Export Prices.				Wholesale Prices.				Retail Prices.		
	Wool.	All Groups.			Basic Materials.	Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.			Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.		
		Excluding Wool.	Excluding Gold.	Total.		Goods Principally Imported. (a)	Goods Principally Home-produced.	All Groups.	" C " Series Index.(b)		Interim Index.(c)
1936-37 ..	122	108	116	115	99	99	98	98	97.3	Base : 1952-53 = 100	
1937-38 ..	99	105	102	102	102	102	100	101	99.8	(Recomputed for purposes of comparison)	
1938-39 ..	79	87	82	83	99	99	102	101	102.9		
1948-49 ..	365	305	348	332	188	201	173	181	152.8		
1949-50 ..	473	308	399	383	214	223	198	205	166.9	74.8	74.9
1950-51 ..	999	365	690	654	264	256	242	246	190.6	91.7	91.4
1951-52 ..	564	397	495	473	321	288	305	300	233.7	100.0	100.0
1952-53 ..	616	371	505	483	350	292	331	320	255.0	102.8	102.5
1953-54 ..	615	356	496	474	332	271	343	321	262.2	103.7	103.6
1954-55 ..	538	342	450	431	330	277	338	320	264.4		
1953-54—											
April ..	(d)596	348	482	461	328	266	337	316	262.1	102.8	102.7
May ..	618	346	492	470	329	266	338	316			
June ..	622	346	494	472	327	267	337	316			
1954-55—											
July ..	(d)622	338	490	468	327	266	337	316	261.8	102.6	102.7
August ..	566	338	461	442	325	267	336	316			
September ..	566	339	462	442	327	271	336	317			
October ..	536	344	450	431	325	269	332	313	263.1	103.2	103.2
November ..	513	343	439	421	327	277	331	315			
December ..	532	348	451	432	328	277	333	317			
January ..	520	345	444	425	329	279	331	316	264.9	103.9	103.8
February ..	528	342	446	427	332	281	338	322			
March ..	528	341	446	426	334	282	344	326			
April ..	520	340	441	422	335	283	341	324	267.8	105.0	104.7
May ..	520	340	441	422	337	283	344	326			
June ..	505	343	435	417	338	287	348	330			
1955-56—											
July ..	(d)505	347	437	419	338	p281	p357	p334	271.9	106.6	105.7
August ..	453	347	411	395	337	p282	p354	p333			
September ..	437	347	404	388	340	p290	p352	p334			
October ..	437	351	406	390	340	p289	p350	p332	274.6	107.7	107.0
November ..	437	352	407	391	342	p291	p355	p336			
December ..	453	p352	p414	p398	342	p291	p352	p334			
January ..	p460	p349	p416	p400	p343	p288	p354	p334	278.0	109.0	108.3
February ..	p460	p340	p411	p395	p343	p288	p347	p329			
March ..	p453	p335	p404	p388							

(a) Represents only such imported commodities as are included in the wholesale price index. This index does not measure changes in price of imports generally. (b) Covers Food and Groceries, House Rent, Clothing and Miscellaneous Items. (c) See note at head of page 26. (d) Nominal.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

BUILDING PERMITS : SIX CAPITAL CITIES AND SUBURBS.

(As granted by local government authorities. Excludes government buildings except as indicated in note (a), page 31.)

Period.	New Dwellings.		Other New Buildings.		Total New Buildings.		Alterations and Additions.	Total.
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Value.	Value.
Monthly Average—		£'000.		£'000.		£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
1936-37(a) ..	1,122	1,104	154	474	1,276	1,578	408	1,986
1937-38(a) ..	1,394	1,413	147	472	1,541	1,885	422	2,307
1938-39(a) ..	1,463	1,509	137	424	1,600	1,933	420	2,353
1947-48(b) ..	2,381	3,649	124	453	2,505	4,102	585	4,687
1948-49 ..	2,621	4,457	110	440	2,731	4,897	680	5,577
1949-50 ..	3,045	5,770	113	460	3,158	6,230	899	7,129
1950-51 ..	3,558	7,857	151	1,062	3,709	8,919	1,507	10,426
1951-52 ..	2,736	6,703	165	1,270	2,901	7,973	1,727	9,700
1952-53 ..	2,506	6,472	303	1,744	2,809	8,216	1,829	10,045
1953-54 ..	2,663	7,747	328	2,538	2,991	10,285	2,071	12,356
1954-55(c) ..	3,673	11,244	378	4,083	4,051	15,327	2,593	17,920
Monthly Total—								
1953-54—								
January ..	2,116	6,209	224	1,209	2,340	7,418	1,523	8,941
February ..	2,301	6,729	272	2,062	2,573	8,791	2,816	11,607
March ..	2,996	8,568	366	3,016	3,362	11,584	2,169	13,753
April ..	2,835	8,002	338	3,372	3,173	11,374	2,248	13,622
May ..	2,808	8,497	317	2,413	3,125	10,910	1,994	12,904
June ..	2,931	8,650	372	4,072	3,303	12,722	2,767	15,489
1954-55—								
July(c) ..	3,759	11,010	416	4,605	4,175	15,615	2,788	18,403
August ..	4,108	12,219	452	2,851	4,560	15,070	2,576	17,646
September ..	4,464	13,238	426	3,821	4,890	17,059	3,019	20,078
October ..	3,847	11,550	374	2,821	4,221	14,371	2,424	16,795
November ..	3,797	11,359	388	6,381	4,185	17,740	2,755	20,495
December ..	3,225	9,699	274	2,578	3,499	12,277	1,897	14,174
January ..	2,706	8,284	269	3,709	2,975	11,993	1,983	13,976
February ..	3,595	10,907	387	4,273	3,982	15,180	2,219	17,399
March ..	3,670	12,064	354	4,235	4,024	16,299	2,608	18,907
April ..	3,212	10,137	339	4,430	3,551	14,567	2,561	17,128
May ..	3,725	11,889	451	3,566	4,176	15,455	3,289	18,744
June ..	3,969	12,577	408	5,731	4,377	18,308	3,000	21,308
1955-56—								
July ..	3,637	11,394	364	4,143	4,001	15,537	2,701	18,238
August ..	3,904	12,253	389	7,159	4,293	19,412	3,166	22,578
September ..	3,983	12,533	414	4,341	4,397	16,874	2,991	19,865
October ..	3,825	12,120	355	3,604	4,180	15,724	2,473	18,197
November ..	r3,758	r12,112	r324	r5,098	4,082	17,210	2,498	19,708
December ..	2,678	8,526	294	5,352	2,972	13,878	2,352	16,230
January ..	2,648	9,012	242	3,380	2,890	12,392	2,282	14,674

(a) Excludes suburbs of Hobart. (b) From July, 1947, includes additional areas in the metropolitan areas of Melbourne. For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication. (c) From July, 1954, includes additional areas in the metropolitan area of Sydney, Melbourne and Hobart. For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication.

NOTE.—Building controls under National Security (Building Control) Regulations operated from 5th December, 1940, becoming most stringent in 1942, when consent was required for all building other than alterations and additions costing less than £25. These controls were progressively relaxed after 1945 and have now ceased to exist in all States. For more detailed notes see earlier issues of this publication.

The "value of permits" shown above relates to the value of building permits issued by local government authorities and not to approvals granted under the Regulations.

For meaning of symbols r, —, see page 1.

BUILDING OPERATIONS : METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL.

(Figures for government buildings relate to contracts let or day-labour work commenced. Figures for private buildings relate only to permits issued by local government authorities. Alterations and additions are included.)

(£'000.)

Period.	Australia.			New South Wales			Victoria.		
	Government.	Private.(a)		Government. (b)	Private.		Government.	Private.	
	Common-wealth and State.	Six Capital Cities and Suburbs.	Other recorded areas.	Common-wealth and State.	Sydney Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note A.	Common-wealth and State.	Melbourne Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note B.
Monthly Average—									
1936-37 ..	n.a.	(c)1,986	(d)627	n.a.	848	416	n.a.	667	62
1937-38 ..	n.a.	(c)2,307	(d)764	n.a.	1,093	506	n.a.	669	78
1938-39 ..	408	(c)2,353	(d)755	187	1,111	495	107	702	63
1948-49 ..	1,992	(e)5,577	(f)3,832	904	2,089	(g)2,432	675	(e)1,804	211
1949-50 ..	2,751	7,129	4,863	985	2,625	3,101	1,067	2,218	217
1950-51 ..	4,348	10,426	(h)8,568	1,964	3,610	4,519	1,428	3,187	(h)2,031
1951-52 ..	3,631	9,700	7,877	1,603	2,679	3,717	960	2,831	1,947
1952-53 ..	2,772	10,045	7,671	923	2,799	3,542	1,129	2,906	1,931
1953-54 ..	(i)4,619	12,356	9,693	1,912	3,553	4,622	1,653	3,890	2,297
1954-55 ..	5,936	j 17,920	(j)8,379	2,461	(k)6,340	(k)3,550	1,779	(k)5,598	(k)1,812
1953-54—									
December Qtr.	4,628	11,285	9,312	2,356	3,166	4,505	1,434	3,813	2,178
March ..	3,839	11,434	8,822	1,189	3,498	4,248	1,407	3,277	1,973
June ..	(i)5,846	14,005	10,838	2,180	3,742	5,156	2,215	4,764	2,568
1954-55—									
September ..	4,773	j 18,709	(j)8,863	1,812	(k)6,419	(k)3,821	1,485	(k)5,643	(k)2,062
December ..	5,845	17,154	8,240	2,098	6,350	3,582	1,998	5,334	1,774
March ..	5,873	16,761	7,712	2,451	5,393	3,022	1,478	5,426	1,635
June ..	7,255	19,060	8,704	3,482	7,199	3,775	2,155	5,988	1,777
1955-56—									
September ..	6,341	20,227	10,085	2,767	7,273	3,653	1,146	6,495	3,224
December ..		18,045	8,921	2,681	5,899	3,292	2,164	5,899	1,873
Monthly Total—									
1954-55—									
April ..	4,470	17,128	n.a.	2,373	6,497	3,218	915	5,539	1,661
May ..	7,525	18,744	n.a.	2,345	7,067	3,745	3,185	5,930	1,605
June ..	9,770	21,308	n.a.	5,727	8,034	4,362	2,366	6,494	2,064
1955-56—									
July ..	4,590	18,238	n.a.	1,744	6,298	3,546	1,556	6,269	1,992
August ..	3,800	22,578	n.a.	1,653	9,176	3,594	765	6,540	2,310
September ..	10,635	19,865	n.a.	4,905	6,346	3,818	1,116	6,676	5,371
October ..	5,621	18,197	n.a.	2,115	5,552	3,560	2,137	5,834	2,091
November ..	7,070	19,708	n.a.	2,832	6,322	3,270	2,139	6,496	2,085
December ..		16,230	n.a.	3,097	5,823	3,046	2,215	5,367	1,442
January ..		14,674	n.a.	794	5,775	2,917	858	4,096	1,513
February ..					7,436	3,091		6,106	2,225

(a) See note (a) on page 31. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Excludes suburbs of Hobart. (d) Incomplete, excludes Western Australia. (e) From July, 1947, the metropolitan area of Melbourne includes some additional areas. For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication. (f) See A, below and C, E and F, page 31. (g) See A below. (h) See B below. (i) See note (f), page 31. (j) See note (k), this page and note (g), page 31. (k) From July, 1954, the metropolitan area includes some additional areas previously included in "Other Recorded Areas". For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication.

NOTES.

A. Includes 129 Country Towns and seven Shires near Sydney to June quarter, 1947, thereafter all areas outside Sydney and suburbs.
B. Includes the Cities of Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Geelong West, Horsham, Mildura, Newtown and Chilwell, Sale, Shepparton and Warrnambool to June quarter, 1950, thereafter all areas outside Melbourne and suburbs.

For meaning of symbols n.a., —, see page 1.

BUILDING OPERATIONS : METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL—continued.

(Figures for government buildings relate to contracts let or day labour work commenced. Figures for private buildings relate only to permits issued by local government authorities. Alterations and additions are included.)

(£'000.)

Period.	Queensland.			South Australia.			Western Australia.			Tasmania.		
	Government.	Private.(a)		Government.(b)	Private.(a)		Government.	Private.(a)		Government.	Private.(a)	
	Common-wealth and State.	Brisbane Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note C.	Common-wealth and State.	Adelaide Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note D.	Common-wealth and State.	Perth Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note E.	Common-wealth and State.	Hobart Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note F.
Monthly Average—												
1936-37 ..	n.a.	153	98	n.a.	118	32	n.a.	168	n.a.	n.a.	32	19
1937-38 ..	n.a.	167	114	n.a.	173	48	n.a.	174	n.a.	n.a.	31	18
1938-39 ..	34	171	118	22	192	63	38	145	n.a.	20	32	16
1948-49 ..	116	610	(c) 721	105	564	132	145	338	70	47	(d) 172	(e) 266
1949-50 ..	198	827	868	217	727	188	197	499	111	87	233	378
1950-51 ..	357	1,106	1,061	216	1,174	215	270	1,027	274	113	322	468
1951-52 ..	228	1,426	1,107	377	1,386	265	379	1,120	347	84	258	494
1952-53 ..	232	1,376	1,209	226	1,525	336	219	1,157	320	43	282	333
1953-54 ..	(f) 303	1,299	1,404	320	1,485	392	314	1,749	548	117	380	430
1954-55 ..	489	1,449	1,545	475	2,170	463	570	1,941	535	162	(g) 422	(g) 474
1953-54—												
Dec. Qtr.	165	1,262	1,392	298	1,244	322	273	1,539	489	102	261	426
March ..	345	1,285	1,404	343	1,321	383	444	1,647	473	111	406	341
June ..	(f) 553	1,199	1,388	375	1,722	441	307	2,239	743	216	339	542
1954-55—												
Sept. ..	541	1,591	1,385	426	2,084	462	399	2,399	645	110	(g) 573	(g) 488
Dec. ..	467	1,322	1,526	715	1,837	395	352	1,918	537	215	393	426
Mar. ..	502	1,614	1,715	179	2,352	465	1,064	1,583	388	199	393	487
June ..	447	1,270	1,554	583	2,408	530	464	1,865	572	124	330	496
1955-56—												
Sept. ..	465	1,528	1,770	1,532	2,531	496	292	1,959	440	139	441	502
Dec. ..	476	1,887	1,566	704	2,324	1,300		1,616	410	93	420	480
Monthly Total—												
1954-55—												
April ..	326	1,089	1,508	373	2,075	n.a.	377	1,583	541	106	345	374
May ..	436	1,181	1,276	907	2,108	n.a.	618	2,063	424	34	395	655
June ..	580	1,540	1,880	467	3,041	n.a.	398	1,947	751	232	252	459
1955-56—												
July ..	406	1,678	1,470	367	1,755	n.a.	369	1,843	415	148	395	463
August ..	453	1,227	1,525	520	2,880	n.a.	366	2,238	486	43	517	510
September ..	534	1,679	2,316	h3,711	2,958	n.a.	142	1,795	420	227	411	533
October ..	583	1,386	1,589	322	2,870	n.a.	372	1,821	472	92	734	638
November ..	568	2,460	1,648	1,198	2,595	n.a.	326	1,600	426	7	235	488
December ..	276	1,815	1,462	593	1,507	n.a.		1,428	332	181	290	314
January ..	741	1,394	883	1,391	2,165	n.a.		908	r382	8	336	424
February ..		1,260			2,388	n.a.		1,183	428		359	686

- (a) Includes buildings erected under government home building schemes where permits obtained from local government authorities.
 (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) See C below. (d) Previously Hobart city area only. From September quarter, 1946, includes the whole metropolitan area of Hobart. (e) See F below. (f) From June quarter, 1954, includes the approvals of Hospital Boards not previously collected. (g) From July, 1954, the metropolitan area includes some additional areas previously included in "Other Recorded Areas." For details See September, 1954, issue of this publication. (h) Includes four hospital buildings, £3,309,000.

NOTES.

C. Includes the Cities of Bundaberg, Cairns, Charters Towers, Gympie, Ipswich, Mackay, Maryborough, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, Townsville and Warwick, and the Towns of Bowen, Charleville, Dalby, Innisfail, Longreach, Redcliffe, Roma, Southport, and Stanthorpe to June quarter, 1947, thereafter all areas outside Brisbane and suburbs.

D. Includes local government areas, and estimate for unincorporated areas.

E. Includes 86 country local authorities, representing approximately 86 per cent. of provincial population.

F. Launceston only to June quarter, 1946, thereafter all areas outside Hobart and suburbs.

For meaning of symbols n.a., r, —, see page 1.

VALUE (WHEN COMPLETED) OF NEW BUILDINGS.

(Including Estimated Value of Owner-built Houses.)

(£'000.)

Period.	Commenced.			Completed.			Under Construction at end of period.		
	Houses.	Other.	Total.	Houses.	Other.	Total.	Houses.(a)	Other.	Total.(a)
Quarterly Average.									
1948-49	a22,277	6,940	a29,217	a18,331	3,932	a22,263	86,832	49,135	135,967
1949-50	a27,516	8,014	a35,530	a22,446	5,251	a27,697	115,714	61,119	176,833
1950-51	a40,478	14,615	a55,093	a31,222	6,258	a37,480	162,481	91,632	254,113
1951-52	44,951	16,224	61,175	43,110	10,876	53,986	187,631	125,534	313,165
1952-53	39,358	13,909	53,267	47,514	18,169	65,683	167,584	115,629	283,213
1953-54	48,471	24,220	72,691	48,455	20,962	69,417	175,896	133,478	309,374
1954-55(b) ..	52,367	33,197	85,564	54,125	24,037	78,162	178,672	156,151	334,823
Quarterly Total.									
1953-54—									
Dec. Qtr. ..	46,817	18,942	65,759	53,584	20,043	73,627	168,113	115,353	283,466
March	48,338	25,053	73,391	43,544	20,830	64,374	173,784	121,134	294,918
June	50,271	31,323	81,594	49,877	21,262	71,139	175,896	133,478	309,374
1954-55—									
Sept.(b) ..	53,801	32,712	86,513	52,361	23,461	75,822	180,253	143,860	324,113
Dec.	51,850	26,282	78,132	57,097	23,784	80,881	177,282	146,986	324,268
March	50,072	37,327	87,399	49,407	22,435	71,842	179,678	162,446	342,124
June	53,751	36,470	90,221	57,636	26,469	84,105	177,477	171,309	348,786
1955-56—									
Sept.	56,433	44,004	100,437	54,437	29,865	84,302	181,724	189,630	371,354
Dec.	52,110	39,034	91,144	58,101	34,978	93,079	178,253	194,779	373,032

(a) Partly estimated.

(b) From September Quarter 1954, includes Northern Territory.

VALUE OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED.

(Including Estimated Value of Owner-built Houses.)

(£'000.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Northern Territory.	Total.
Quarterly Average—									
1948-49	(a) 8,434	6,839	3,050	1,621	1,177	953	189	n.a.	(a)22,263
1949-50	(a)10,230	8,671	3,488	2,268	1,338	1,336	366	n.a.	(a)27,697
1950-51	(a)12,367	13,014	4,322	3,010	2,237	2,101	429	n.a.	(a)37,480
1951-52	19,052	17,154	6,335	4,531	3,606	2,628	680	n.a.	53,986
1952-53	24,512	19,027	6,558	6,471	5,730	2,666	718	n.a.	65,682
1953-54	25,386	21,188	6,478	6,527	6,446	2,423	970	n.a.	69,418
1954-55	27,674	24,303	7,079	6,770	8,524	2,665	735	413	78,163
Quarterly Total—									
1953-54—									
Dec. Qtr. ..	26,550	22,926	6,732	6,584	7,274	2,223	1,338	n.a.	73,627
March	23,292	19,636	5,666	6,569	5,621	2,741	849	n.a.	64,374
June	27,407	19,722	6,888	7,014	6,582	2,445	1,081	n.a.	71,139
1954-55—									
Sept.	27,119	23,503	5,933	7,420	7,951	2,641	833	422	75,822
Dec.	29,834	24,438	7,394	7,287	8,151	2,552	902	323	80,881
March	24,403	22,918	6,620	5,935	8,334	2,730	373	529	71,842
June	29,338	26,357	8,371	6,439	9,660	2,726	835	379	84,105
1955-56—									
Sept.	30,397	24,279	7,413	7,528	9,546	3,469	1,220	450	84,302
Dec.	33,254	29,562	8,598	8,219	9,050	2,861	964	571	93,079

(a) Partly estimated.

For meaning of symbols n.a., —, see page 1.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES.

(Including Owner-built Houses.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Northern Territory.	Total.
COMMENCED.									
Quarterly Average—									
1948-49	(a)5,323	4,122	2,340	1,140	961	712	134	n.a.	(a)14,732
1949-50	(a)5,514	4,911	2,502	1,527	1,258	916	97	n.a.	(a)16,725
1950-51	(a)6,292	6,737	2,675	1,991	1,742	1,030	219	n.a.	(a)20,686
1951-52	6,091	5,877	2,999	2,128	1,932	896	78	n.a.	20,001
1952-53	5,258	4,064	2,345	1,992	1,753	571	132	n.a.	16,115
1953-54	7,099	5,229	2,128	1,698	1,902	666	89	n.a.	18,811
1954-55	6,375	5,668	1,946	1,797	2,144	718	160	62	18,870
Quarterly Total—									
1953-54—Dec. Qtr.	7,283	5,173	1,957	1,591	1,741	595	72	n.a.	18,412
Mar. „	7,197	5,234	2,225	1,499	1,909	663	92	n.a.	18,819
June „	7,127	5,214	2,114	1,795	1,974	724	119	n.a.	19,067
1954-55—Sept. „	6,889	6,025	2,097	1,653	2,466	706	88	52	19,976
Dec. „	6,440	5,609	1,982	1,745	2,283	710	139	46	18,954
Mar. „	5,918	5,447	1,770	1,799	1,791	796	202	66	17,789
June „	6,255	5,593	1,935	1,993	2,035	655	211	85	18,762
1955-56—Sept. „	6,849	5,529	1,950	2,348	1,919	586	222	88	19,491
Dec. „	6,281	5,230	1,790	2,121	1,715	648	115	70	17,970
COMPLETED.									
Quarterly Average—									
1948-49	(a)4,466	3,570	2,338	997	811	572	81	n.a.	(a)12,835
1949-50	(a)4,692	3,902	2,362	1,226	877	713	101	n.a.	(a)13,873
1950-51	(a)4,943	5,290	2,569	1,680	1,290	979	144	n.a.	(a)16,895
1951-52	5,837	5,988	2,951	1,928	1,644	1,000	146	n.a.	19,494
1952-53	6,222	5,258	2,650	2,235	1,991	829	147	n.a.	19,332
1953-54	6,628	5,345	2,240	1,881	1,907	658	138	n.a.	18,797
1954-55	7,221	5,890	1,981	1,831	2,198	620	99	50	19,890
Quarterly Total—									
1953-54—Dec. Qtr.	7,394	5,994	2,430	2,051	2,138	661	203	n.a.	20,871
Mar. „	6,048	4,776	2,034	1,682	1,621	562	98	n.a.	16,821
June „	7,153	4,989	2,231	1,816	1,975	799	127	n.a.	19,090
1954-55—Sept. „	7,295	5,818	1,766	1,951	1,970	559	108	43	19,510
Dec. „	7,680	6,273	2,068	1,993	2,340	737	133	44	21,268
Mar. „	6,418	5,449	1,998	1,600	1,874	558	67	32	17,996
June „	7,489	6,020	2,093	1,779	2,608	626	90	80	20,785
1955-56—Sept. „	7,000	5,593	1,981	1,903	1,951	579	132	76	19,215
Dec. „	6,506	6,278	1,923	2,000	2,339	715	156	80	19,997
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD.(b)									
1948-49	23,113	17,521	3,958	3,940	2,439	2,575	696	n.a.	54,242
1949-50	26,402	21,553	4,520	5,241	3,957	3,357	678	n.a.	65,708
1950-51	31,793	27,341	4,943	6,529	5,764	3,558	981	n.a.	80,909
1951-52	32,806	26,896	5,135	7,395	6,917	3,143	708	n.a.	83,000
1952-53	28,946	22,053	3,918	6,464	5,951	2,114	646	n.a.	70,092
1953-54	30,828	21,581	3,470	5,750	5,932	2,149	449	n.a.	70,159
1954-55	27,448	20,692	3,329	5,602	5,715	2,536	691	211	66,224
1953-54—Dec. Qtr. „	29,705	20,900	3,396	5,960	5,645	2,123	463	n.a.	68,192
Mar. „	30,854	21,358	3,587	5,778	5,933	2,224	457	n.a.	70,191
June „	30,828	21,581	3,470	5,750	5,932	2,149	449	n.a.	70,159
1954-55—Sept. „	30,422	21,788	3,801	5,447	6,428	2,296	429	170	70,781
Dec. „	29,182	21,124	3,715	5,198	6,371	2,269	435	172	68,466
Mar. „	28,682	21,119	3,487	5,393	6,288	2,507	570	206	68,252
June „	27,448	20,692	3,329	5,602	5,715	2,536	691	211	66,224
1955-56—Sept. „	27,297	20,628	3,298	6,047	5,676	2,543	781	223	66,493
Dec. „	27,072	19,580	3,165	6,165	5,052	2,476	740	213	64,463

(a) Partly estimated.

(b) Partly estimated for New South Wales and total.

For meaning of symbols n.a., —, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF COAL, ENERGY AND METALS.

Period.	Black Coal.			Brown Coal.	Gold, (Mine Production). (a)	Heat, Light and Power.		Metals.				
	Under-ground.	Open Cut.	Total.			Gas made in Gas-works.	Total Electricity Generated.	Pig Iron.	Ingot Steel.	Zinc, Refined. (b)	Lead, Refined and Lead in Lead Bullion. (b)	Copper, Refined. (b)
	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 fine oz.	Million cubic feet.	Million kWh.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Monthly Average—								(c)	(c)			
1936-37 ..	n.a.	n.a.	977	258	108.2	1,679	331	76.1	90.0	5,840	17,562	1,280
1937-38 ..	n.a.	n.a.	990	300	123.3	1,746	363	77.5	97.2	5,810	18,797	1,437
1938-39 ..	n.a.	n.a.	1,051	267	135.1	1,789	391	92.1	97.5	5,819	19,416	1,457
1948-49 ..	1,056	181	1,237	586	74.9	3,061	754	87.1	98.2	6,298	17,017	939
1949-50 ..	1,038	205	1,243	636	71.6	2,908	792	91.5	101.5	6,981	15,784	968
1950-51 ..	1,127	241	1,368	608	74.3	3,075	875	109.4	120.3	6,478	15,682	936
1951-52 ..	1,243	355	1,598	675	75.7	3,366	941	119.2	126.8	7,011	15,680	1,485
1952-53 ..	1,251	294	1,545	673	86.5	3,439	1,024	141.0	150.1	7,181	16,030	1,595
1953-54 ..	1,362	257	1,619	728	92.6	3,508	1,142	152.2	176.4	8,263	19,669	1,742
1954-55 p ..	1,393	220	1,613	806	90.0	3,610	1,275	155.5	184.1	8,372	19,613	2,533
Monthly Total—												
1953-54—												
March ..	1,531	287	1,818	765	100.5	3,312	1,189	143.6	176.0	8,921	17,973	1,956
April ..	1,285	260	1,545	761	91.3	3,275	1,133	142.9	174.5	8,677	17,883	3,006
May ..	1,448	273	1,721	817	93.9	3,830	1,255	147.8	184.5	8,954	19,523	1,685
June ..	1,472	249	1,721	838	95.6	4,018	1,290	145.6	176.0	8,650	19,763	1,782
1954-55 p—												
July ..	1,500	262	1,762	842	98.2	4,270	1,359	159.6	202.4	9,050	23,634	1,479
August ..	1,461	286	1,747	808	90.5	4,120	1,321	155.0	193.2	9,029	21,680	1,786
September	1,563	269	1,832	833	97.2	3,812	1,255	169.0	197.3	8,680	19,470	2,483
October ..	1,500	228	1,728	819	88.7	3,663	1,243	174.2	200.9	8,876	20,234	3,288
November	1,533	249	1,782	826	95.6	3,405	1,212	160.6	189.5	8,496	19,709	3,318
December	1,255	224	1,479	698	97.6	3,256	1,189	164.7	189.2	8,761	18,165	3,299
January ..	734	172	906	711	78.3	3,065	1,162	158.7	173.6	8,763	18,622	2,046
February	1,413	153	1,566	730	76.2	2,942	1,163	137.3	156.3	7,820	14,805	2,786
March ..	1,480	161	1,641	828	92.7	3,310	1,315	156.6	182.2	8,197	17,303	1,468
April ..	1,295	190	1,485	817	77.9	3,335	1,243	137.4	158.1	7,058	21,964	1,906
May ..	1,489	223	1,712	894	87.6	3,974	1,396	146.7	190.0	7,573	21,829	2,539
June ..	1,485	227	1,712	861	99.7	4,170	1,441	141.8	178.6	8,156	17,938	4,002
1955-56 p—												
July ..	1,570	207	1,777	898	89.1	4,480	1,508	157.7	195.8	8,742	17,697	4,419
August ..	1,653	253	1,906	926	80.6	4,276	1,478	145.3	197.7	8,942	21,218	3,657
September	1,574	223	1,797	904	87.4	3,825	1,383	136.7	189.1	8,753	20,722	2,826
October ..	1,494	198	1,692	889	88.5	3,697	1,376	147.7	190.2	8,971	20,057	2,331
November	1,541	189	1,730	869	93.6	3,498	1,365	162.1	192.2	8,820	17,310	2,334
December	1,226	127	1,353	785	97.4	3,344	1,309	166.1	192.7	8,985	15,433	1,988
January	760	96	856	813	82.1	3,095	1,272	169.3	197.5	8,685	20,991	1,936
February			1,406	787	77.7			163.2	192.7	8,025	17,342	2,578
March ..			1,472	839				172.2	202.3	8,527		3,035

(a) Gold content of minerals produced in Australia.
Association.

(b) Source: Bureau of Mineral Resources and Australian Mines and Metals

(c) Monthly averages for twelve months ended May.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF BUILDING MATERIALS AND HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES.

Period.	Building Materials.							Cooking Stoves.			Domestic Refrigerators.
	Clay Bricks.	Roofing Tiles.		Cement Building Sheets.	Sawn Native Timber. (a)	Portland Cement.	Fibrous Plaster Sheets.	Solid Fuel. (b)	Gas.(b)	Electric. (c)	
		Terra-cotta.	Cement.								
	Million.	'000.	'000.	'000 sq. yds. (d)	Million sup. ft.	'000 tons.	'000 sq. yds.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Monthly Average—											
1936-37 ..	53.1	2,630	326	522	53.6	60.0	567	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1937-38 ..	57.4	3,023	430	678	62.2	71.0	619	4,562	3,481	749	1,257
1938-39 ..	60.0	3,307	374	791	59.8	72.3	634	4,538	3,894	730	2,458
1948-49 ..	51.4	3,680	2,358	1,547	98.7	86.0	1,103	5,120	4,130	3,494	12,134
1949-50 ..	50.3	3,785	3,387	1,529	101.9	97.3	1,105	5,155	3,892	2,865	13,528
1950-51 ..	57.4	3,918	4,230	1,771	105.1	102.9	1,265	6,251	4,613	3,733	16,994
1951-52 ..	60.0	4,072	5,540	1,944	116.0	103.1	1,373	5,975	4,251	4,240	16,066
1952-53 ..	55.6	4,831	3,338	2,022	111.6	119.9	1,285	3,994	2,978	1,883	15,179
1953-54 ..	66.8	5,315	3,721	2,174	116.5	141.7	1,349	4,198	3,587	3,098	22,874
1954-55 p ..	69.5	5,283	4,376	2,312	118.5	160.2	1,448	4,209	4,904	3,933	23,274
Monthly Total—											
1953-54—											
January ..	50.1	3,902	2,544	1,658	90.5	117.0	1,029	2,572	2,387	2,367	25,141
February ..	61.5	5,019	3,393	2,181	105.7	120.2	1,339	3,266	2,980	2,732	23,140
March ..	73.7	5,638	4,007	2,488	114.6	154.5	1,481	4,005	3,902	3,943	21,794
April ..	66.0	5,161	3,522	1,906	113.6	144.0	1,366	3,902	2,868	3,452	18,247
May ..	70.2	5,699	3,915	2,480	119.2	171.7	1,461	4,808	4,009	3,888	17,819
June ..	73.9	5,804	4,149	2,408	122.1	168.3	1,482	5,104	4,470	4,202	20,723
1954-55 p—											
July ..	73.1	5,328	4,368	2,655	122.5	171.0	1,502	5,425	4,476	4,118	24,369
August ..	75.6	5,681	4,518	2,444	117.3	163.6	1,529	4,943	5,112	3,602	26,147
September ..	75.9	5,877	4,736	2,547	129.3	162.5	1,536	5,252	5,620	3,816	32,618
October ..	72.9	5,532	4,420	2,621	126.0	169.1	1,504	4,609	5,457	3,735	33,145
November ..	75.4	5,578	4,924	2,336	131.1	171.9	1,563	4,601	5,357	3,719	34,368
December ..	60.9	4,785	4,114	2,089	120.6	153.3	1,248	3,525	4,595	3,841	30,959
January ..	49.5	3,717	3,260	1,611	90.2	142.5	1,068	2,465	2,976	2,532	19,827
February ..	67.3	5,450	4,295	2,370	112.6	136.9	1,473	3,739	4,645	4,217	22,170
March ..	73.7	5,449	4,892	2,341	119.9	160.8	1,586	3,961	5,352	4,751	18,394
April ..	64.5	5,120	4,108	2,145	98.8	152.3	1,380	3,516	4,643	4,053	10,290
May ..	74.0	5,505	4,424	2,210	122.9	169.8	1,517	4,199	5,400	4,485	13,207
June ..	71.5	5,370	4,453	2,379	131.5	168.3	1,469	4,279	5,215	4,329	13,794
1955-56 p—							(e)				
July ..	72.5	4,141	4,640	2,813	126.7	164.5	1,489	4,447	6,413	4,828	12,647
August ..	79.1	6,163	4,897	2,321	132.4	170.3	1,678	5,224	7,662	4,589	19,778
September ..	76.4	5,794	3,935	2,257	139.6	173.0	1,528	5,076	6,283	3,851	26,120
October ..	75.2	6,224	4,795	2,621	127.4	175.3	1,528	3,891	5,542	3,544	32,377
November ..	77.8	6,151	4,972	2,484	134.9	190.9	1,614	4,051	5,370	4,302	34,814
December ..	60.4	4,580	3,936	1,895	135.9	155.4	1,179	2,878	3,452	3,121	27,669
January ..	52.5	3,837	3,838	1,341	91.9	135.4	1,051	2,479	2,982	2,842	19,928
February ..	66.9	5,482	4,894	2,236		152.4	1,470	3,790	3,639	4,238	18,611

(a) Includes sawn sleepers.

(b) Household, commercial and industrial cooking stoves to 1947-48—thereafter household cooking stoves only.

(c) Household, commercial and industrial cooking stoves, ranges, stoves and cookers to 1944-45—thereafter household cooking stoves only.

(d) In terms of '000 standard square yards to 1944-45, thereafter in terms of '000 selling square yards. A standard square yard contains a given volume of sheet; a selling square yard represents the area covered by the finished sheet regardless of its thickness or corrugation.

(e) From July, 1955,

represents total production in all establishments and includes small quantities not previously recorded in some States.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, —, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING.

Period.	Cotton Textiles.			Wool Textiles.			Boots and Shoes (not Rubber).
	Cotton Yarn.	Cotton Woven Textiles (excl. Towels and Towelling).	Pure Rayon Fabrics.	Scoured and Carbonized Wool.	Yarn.	Woven Cloth.	
	'000 lb.	'000 sq. yds.	'000 sq. yds.	Million lb.	Million lb.	Million sq. yds.	'000 pairs.
Monthly Average—							
1936-37	730	n.a.	n.a.	8.4	2.14	2.04	1,208
1937-38	965	n.a.	n.a.	7.9	2.51	2.47	1,176
1938-39	974	n.a.	n.a.	8.8	2.71	2.65	1,164
1948-49	2,290	2,133	475.5	13.5	4.24	3.40	1,287
1949-50	2,519	2,398	548.5	14.4	4.09	3.11	1,284
1950-51	2,938	2,537	905.0	12.7	3.87	3.13	1,409
1951-52	2,872	2,617	905.4	10.1	3.04	2.44	1,400
1952-53	2,302	2,052	1,289.3	10.3	2.97	2.38	1,354
1953-54	3,175	2,802	1,702.6	11.6	3.76	2.72	1,506
1954-55 p	3,431	2,806	1,364.1	11.3	3.55	2.37	1,443
Monthly Total—							
1953-54—							
February	3,084	2,535	1,722.4	10.1	3.69	2.75	1,360
March	3,982	3,438	1,764.2	13.0	4.20	3.22	1,609
April	3,013	2,878	1,706.1	11.4	3.79	2.48	1,463
May	3,583	3,339	1,529.6	12.3	4.06	2.68	1,573
June	4,002	3,497	1,786.5	13.0	4.55	2.65	1,633
1954-55 p—							
July	3,811	3,094	1,764.2	11.8	3.73	2.36	1,511
August	3,628	2,954	1,480.6	11.6	3.77	2.55	1,572
September	3,878	3,101	1,302.7	10.5	3.95	2.72	1,574
October	3,462	2,931	1,306.9	11.4	3.75	2.52	1,497
November	3,618	3,016	1,354.1	12.2	3.87	2.72	1,567
December	3,045	2,402	1,108.5	10.0	2.92	2.06	1,263
January	2,406	1,989	799.9	8.5	2.39	1.77	836
February	3,398	2,636	1,271.4	10.6	3.42	2.45	1,391
March	3,901	3,007	1,405.9	12.6	3.95	2.57	1,591
April	2,880	2,460	1,348.4	10.4	3.54	2.00	1,329
May	3,446	2,993	1,698.4	12.4	3.69	2.31	1,579
June	3,699	3,091	1,528.5	13.4	3.99	2.34	1,609
1955-56 p—							
July	3,410	2,981	1,265.8	12.2	3.45	2.06	1,407
August	3,818	3,233	1,303.9	11.6	3.86	2.48	r1,685
September	3,570	3,131	1,155.5	9.9	3.75	2.47	1,560
October	3,439	3,076	1,161.3	11.6	3.56	2.24	1,478
November	3,525	3,120	1,348.1	13.0	4.00	2.49	1,562
December	2,520	2,294	1,030.9	11.1	2.83	1.67	r1,133
January	2,413	2,474	1,005.3	9.9	2.39	r1.82	929
February	3,642	3,265	1,385.6	12.1	3.97	2.58	1,466

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING—continued.

Period.	Hosiery.			Underwear.(b)		Shirts, Men's and Boys'.
	Men's and Boys'.	Women's, Maids' and Girls'.	Infants' and Babies' .(a)	Men's, Youths' and Boys'.	Women's, Maids' and Girls'.	
	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz.	'000 doz.	'000 doz.
Monthly Average—						
1936-37	83.1	157.1	49.1	191.8		(c) 60.6
1937-38	86.7	183.7	52.0	227.6		(c) 69.9
1938-39	91.9	178.0	51.0	229.2		(c) 56.2
1948-49	106.3	128.0	58.8	264.0		(c) 71.3
1949-50	99.3	142.4	54.7	294.2		(c) 73.7
1950-51	128.0	154.8	46.9	107.7	201.9	89.5
1951-52	121.8	155.6	38.9	105.6	196.6	96.5
1952-53	131.2	194.8	35.5	92.9	175.2	71.5
1953-54	157.9	232.8	47.5	120.8	224.4	103.3
1954-55 p	140.4	254.6	35.1	117.9	227.3	118.1
Monthly Total—						
1953-54—						
February	143.2	213.9	43.3	110.7	202.2	82.3
March	179.0	271.8	55.0	136.5	260.2	107.0
April	139.9	235.6	45.7	119.2	209.4	92.7
May.. ..	149.0	257.5	50.9	129.3	224.3	102.9
June.. ..	160.3	263.2	51.0	125.7	239.0	112.2
1954-55 p—						
July	151.2	275.7	48.7	124.9	256.3	133.5
August	157.6	269.3	49.6	121.3	244.8	146.8
September	164.4	291.2	35.8	136.0	277.3	163.9
October	157.1	265.3	43.4	109.4	240.4	159.0
November	164.8	282.8	32.9	131.2	257.3	164.4
December	136.8	226.7	28.6	113.2	223.9	116.3
January	89.4	160.3	16.3	74.9	141.8	52.6
February	126.9	242.0	38.8	116.0	218.8	89.1
March	155.9	268.9	43.1	133.3	236.0	102.3
April	109.3	243.3	26.0	107.4	185.5	77.2
May	128.9	268.0	29.3	124.5	227.5	98.8
June.. ..	142.3	258.9	28.7	123.6	217.4	112.5
1955-56 p—						
July	131.9	240.8	24.3	126.2	222.5	123.4
August	r145.8	255.5	29.1	152.7	239.5	148.7
September	130.5	272.2	26.3	134.6	232.8	141.5
October	133.6	259.1	27.7	139.2	248.5	132.7
November	153.3	291.8	29.0	157.3	278.2	140.7
December	105.5	210.6	20.2	102.2	196.0	105.1
January	88.3	153.3	16.6	77.8	r145.7	44.8
February	139.3	252.8	27.1	141.1	241.3	87.7

(a) Collected as children's prior to 1951-52. (b) Total made including that knitted or made of knitted or woven fabric.
(c) Excludes knitted.

For meaning of symbols p, r, ———, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF FOOD AND DRINK.

Period.	Wheaten Flour.	Refined Sugar.	Whole Milk for All Purposes.	Dairy Products (Factory Production).			Meat (Bone-in Weight).(a)					Beer.
				Butter.	Cheese.	Processed Full Cream Milk Products.	Beef (including Veal).	Mutton.	Lamb.	Total Pigmets (as Pork).	Total. (b)	
	'000 short tons.	'000 tons.	Million gals.	Tons.	Tons.	'000 gals.(c)	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 gals.
Monthly Average—												
1936-37	102.4	27.0	89.9	13,908	1,636	n.a.	45.9	16.0	10.0	7.7	79.6	6,261
1937-38	104.2	28.9	96.4	15,242	2,018	n.a.	49.7	17.2	9.9	7.2	84.0	7,084
1938-39	114.4	28.2	99.2	16,232	2,415	2,781	46.6	17.1	9.6	7.2	80.5	7,523
1948-49	139.9	35.7	100.7	13,424	3,596	7,304	48.1	15.1	11.6	7.8	82.6	12,171
1949-50	125.8	35.2	103.2	14,037	3,731	7,464	50.5	17.2	12.7	7.5	87.9	13,009
1950-51	141.3	37.6	99.8	13,303	3,692	7,069	54.3	13.5	9.4	7.1	84.3	14,397
1951-52	143.4	41.1	87.3	10,931	3,382	6,360	48.5	14.7	8.9	7.1	79.2	15,398
1952-53	143.9	36.7	101.3	13,632	3,883	6,951	56.2	20.8	12.2	6.9	96.1	16,446
1953-54	134.1	37.4	99.1	13,010	4,087	6,314	58.7	19.8	10.6	7.0	96.1	17,380
1954-55p	128.2	39.9	109.8	15,683	3,758	5,065	59.5	19.4	12.2	8.1	99.2	19,066
Monthly Total—												
1953-54—												
Mar. ..	125.3	45.0	108.0	15,465	3,084	5,347	57.6	21.4	9.1	7.5	95.6	20,220
April ..	116.3	37.5	78.4	9,933	1,901	4,260	54.4	18.5	8.4	7.0	88.3	17,822
May ..	147.4	39.0	66.2	7,646	1,661	3,041	68.4	18.0	8.3	6.9	101.6	16,382
June ..	130.5	33.9	59.2	6,291	1,719	2,464	75.6	18.4	9.1	7.2	110.3	14,825
1954-55p—												
July ..	124.7	37.1	64.4	6,923	2,426	3,169	75.2	16.3	9.0	7.8	108.3	15,076
Aug. ..	121.3	42.9	87.1	10,913	3,748	4,592	63.4	16.6	10.9	7.6	98.5	16,536
Sept. ..	112.2	42.5	117.2	16,304	5,411	6,585	61.2	18.5	15.6	7.8	103.1	19,074
Oct. ..	113.6	44.6	147.5	21,842	6,643	7,986	59.3	20.9	22.9	7.2	110.3	20,313
Nov. ..	120.9	43.6	162.4	25,038	6,645	8,288	57.4	21.5	19.1	9.2	107.2	20,787
Dec. ..	136.4	43.7	159.1	24,739	5,897	7,682	56.4	21.3	15.6	11.0	104.3	22,139
Jan. ..	131.4	40.0	130.5	19,700	4,087	6,209	46.0	21.3	9.7	6.9	83.9	20,657
Feb. ..	134.6	36.8	110.9	16,612	2,724	4,638	49.1	21.1	8.9	7.4	86.5	20,383
Mar. ..	151.4	37.7	111.3	16,672	2,451	4,017	58.0	21.5	9.2	8.4	97.1	21,541
Apr. ..	128.6	33.5	88.2	12,368	1,813	2,835	52.7	17.7	8.4	8.0	86.8	18,816
May ..	142.6	40.4	73.9	9,445	1,586	2,451	62.1	18.1	8.6	8.2	97.0	17,216
June ..	120.8	36.2	65.2	7,636	1,661	2,324	73.5	18.3	8.7	7.9	108.4	16,257
1955-56p—												
July ..	125.2	37.5	71.8	8,479	2,174	3,252	68.0	16.1	7.7	6.7	98.5	16,038
Aug. ..	119.4	40.9	98.1	13,280	3,166	5,253	70.3	17.1	8.7	7.7	103.8	18,289
Sept. ..	114.4	42.9	125.2	18,203	4,380	7,339	71.1	19.3	13.6	7.5	111.5	20,164
Oct. ..	129.7	44.9	158.1	24,318	5,363	8,958	67.5	21.1	22.6	7.3	118.5	21,947
Nov. ..	138.8	44.3	166.8	26,173	5,253	9,578	67.0	22.9	21.5	9.2	120.6	23,259
Dec. ..	135.6	40.3	160.2	25,284	4,568	8,664	60.5	23.4	17.3	10.8	112.0	23,958
Jan. ..	119.9	42.4	151.1	23,925	3,684	7,805	50.0	21.7	10.2	6.6	88.5	20,498
Feb. ..	108.6	40.5	128.0	20,041	2,487	5,787	52.2	20.3	9.1	7.0	88.6	21,120
Mar. ..	128.1	41.6	109.3	15,890	2,295	5,221						20,943

(a) Includes monthly estimates of production in Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.
(c) Whole milk equivalent.

(b) In terms of fresh meat.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS.

Period.	Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes. (a)	Chemicals and Allied Products.					Motor Bodies.			Pneumatic Tyres— Motor Cycle, Car, Truck, Aero, &c.
		Sulphuric Acid (100%).	Super- phosphate.	Paints.			Sedans and Coupes.	Tourers and Roadsters.	Utilities.	
				Ready- Mixed Paint.	Lacquers, Nitro- Cellulose.	Enamels, Natural and Synthetic.				
	'000 lb.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 gals.	'000 gals.	'000 gals.	No.	No.	No.	'000.
Monthly Average—										
1936-37	1,805	36.4	90.9	161	n.a.	n.a.	3,660	478	610	n.a.
1937-38	1,904	41.3	102.8	170	60	39	4,032	804	518	n.a.
1938-39	1,939	40.8	100.0	176	48	48	3,426	816	715	n.a.
1948-49	2,427	48.8	118.6	308	69	143	2,131	487	799	143
1949-50	2,558	51.0	123.6	330	78	186	2,347	333	1,174	164
1950-51	2,652	53.3	129.0	466	96	157	3,036	387	1,853	187
1951-52	2,795	54.2	133.1	459	99	174	3,486	390	1,865	213
1952-53	3,029	52.3	137.1	358	84	176	4,173		1,749	141
1953-54	3,487	61.0	147.6	432	109	225	5,514		2,086	241
1954-55 p ..	3,652	68.9	163.7	521	123	302	6,002		2,238	291
Monthly Total—										
1953-54—										
February	3,406	59.5	145.3	422	101	200	5,096		1,654	221
March	4,167	70.0	178.9	470	124	241	6,574		2,034	292
April	2,867	63.8	146.8	452	112	214	5,609		1,922	247
May	3,834	65.1	161.3	470	122	235	6,383		2,153	276
June	3,396	72.7	175.7	453	114	235	6,784		2,541	274
1954-55 p—										
July	3,402	65.2	150.0	453	125	288	6,703		2,600	303
August	3,318	64.4	143.2	442	127	308	6,492		2,646	288
September ..	3,467	62.1	155.7	486	126	350	6,541		2,630	315
October	3,713	59.6	127.3	514	125	330	5,592		2,417	293
November ..	4,079	62.7	141.2	561	140	324	5,886		2,414	312
December ..	3,831	70.3	160.3	482	103	285	4,888		2,225	228
January	3,075	69.4	179.6	532	90	218	3,184		1,165	199
February	3,826	64.9	154.7	548	124	271	5,931		2,072	289
March	3,958	79.8	203.2	617	139	333	7,135		2,476	326
April	3,392	74.7	172.5	532	114	276	5,710		1,903	279
May	4,055	76.5	177.9	587	137	312	6,799		2,314	328
June	3,713	77.4	195.1	500	129	330	7,157		2,004	326
1955-56 p—										
July	3,692	65.1	146.3	470	112	288	7,065		2,030	320
August	3,992	64.5	149.6	557	137	365	7,626		2,358	350
September ..	3,795	78.7	181.9	592	131	385	7,217		2,368	336
October	3,748	75.7	168.9	571	134	412	6,816		2,195	309
November ..	4,090	80.1	198.3	642	140	396	7,439		2,458	332
December ..	3,752	80.4	179.1	532	108	333	6,151		1,860	245
January	3,474	76.1	189.2	422	93	273	4,163		962	204
February	3,851	80.6	211.5	566	128	262	6,805		2,092	296

(a) Details for 1952-53 and earlier periods refer to Australian factory production ; 1953-54 and later figures to quantity on which excise duty was paid.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, see page 1.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Unless otherwise stated, the indexes shown below include mining, manufacturing, electricity and manufactured gas, but exclude construction. When the indexes are adjusted for differences in the number of working days per month or for seasonal variations they are footnoted accordingly.

Source : *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations.

(Base: 1953 = 100.)

Period.	Belgium. (a)	Canada. (b)	Denmark. (b)	France. (b)	Italy.	Japan.	Nether- lands.	Norway. (b)	Sweden. (b)	United King- dom. (c)	U.S.A. (b) (d)
1948 ..	88	79	82	79	62	38	70	70	90	83	78
1949 ..	88	80	88	87	68	48	78	77	94	88	72
1950 ..	90	85	98	87	79	55	88	87	97	94	84
1951 ..	103	91	100	99	90	74	91	94	101	97	90
1952 ..	100	94	96	103	91	82	91	95	100	94	93
1953 ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1954 ..	108	98	109	109	109	108	111	106	104	107	93
1953—											
December..	104	94	99	108	108	111	103	99	109	100	92
1954—											
January ..	104	92	98	106	103	101	98	104	105	106	92
February ..	104	96	106	106	101	102	97	125	105	108	94
March ..	104	95	108	108	112	111	112	113	107	109	94
April ..	109	97	108	111	111	108	108	99	110	103	92
May ..	109	98	110	114	110	105	110	103	110	110	92
June ..	109	102	111	112	104	105	114	108	111	106	92
July ..	98	96	75	105	117	104	109	74	56	97	87
August ..	107	99	111	86	93	102	108	104	103	93	92
September..	111	102	118	111	115	105	116	115	110	110	93
October ..	114	103	116	113	117	110	117	113	112	115	97
November..	114	102	118	118	112	109	120	115	115	116	97
December..	115	97	111	119	115	112	122	105	113	108	96
1955—											
January ..	114	96	110	118	109	99	107	107	111	112	99
February ..	115	100	115	120	107	105	104	127	113	116	101
March ..	114	101	116	123	122	115	123	122	114	117	103
April ..	118	104	113	121	114	112	115	101	119	111	103
May ..	119	108	114	123	123	113	115	106	116	116	103
June ..	119	111	112	125	118	114	127	116	116	113	104
July ..	106	106	75	113	124	116	117	78	61	101	97
August ..	116	109	113	94	103	117	117	105	106	98	104
September..	123	113	119	119	124	120	123	119	116	116	106
October ..	118	115	117	124	125	121	124	117	117	120	110
November..	123	114	118	128	120	123	126	120	122	121	108
December		107	110	128		126	123	110	116	112	

(a) Adjusted for seasonal variations and for number of working days.

(c) Partially adjusted for number of working days. Includes construction.

(b) Adjusted for number of working days.

(d) Excludes electricity and manufactured gas.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS.

(Includes Commonwealth-owned vehicles other than those of Departments of Army and Air.)

Period.	Motor Vehicles on Register at end of period			New Motor Vehicles Registered during period.		
	Motor Cars.(a)	Commercial Vehicles, &c.(a)	Motor Cycles.	Motor Cars. (a)	Commercial Vehicles, &c.(a)	Motor Cycles.
	'000.	'000.	'000.			
Monthly Averages.						
1936-37(b)	499	214	78	(c) 4,049	(c) 2,016	(c) 623
1937-38(b)	535	242	80	(c) 4,594	(c) 2,283	(c) 694
1938-39	562	258	79	(c) 4,509	(c) 2,077	(c) 614
1947-48(c)	592	412	100	3,562	2,397	1,192
1948-49(c)	655	450	117	5,539	3,056	1,852
1949-50(c)	768	490	134	9,584	4,829	2,232
1950-51(c)	882	548	145	10,639	6,494	2,263
1951-52(c)	1,031	581	154	10,443	6,122	1,846
1952-53(c)	1,108	579	148	7,748	4,362	941
1953-54	1,200	607	140	10,425	4,824	905
1954-55	1,347	650	133	13,860	5,638	941
Monthly Totals.						
1953-54—						
March	1,172	598	143	11,700	5,255	1,020
April	1,182	601	142	11,264	4,927	1,007
May	1,190	603	141	11,654	5,234	892
June	1,200	607	140	12,440	5,318	740
1954-55—						
July	1,211	608	139	13,379	5,739	847
August	1,225	613	139	(d) 15,885	(d) 6,036	(d) 848
September	1,237	617	138	(d) 13,755	(d) 6,284	(d) 949
October	1,251	622	137	(d) 13,560	(d) 5,801	(d) 953
November	1,268	629	138	(d) 13,609	(d) 6,171	(d) 890
December	1,284	635	138	(d) 13,395	(d) 5,735	(d) 1,151
January	1,284	631	136	(d) 8,132	(d) 3,842	(d) 834
February	1,295	636	136	(d) 12,740	(d) 4,781	(d) 964
March	1,306	639	135	(d) 15,757	(d) 5,885	(d) 1,117
April	1,317	640	134	(d) 13,482	(d) 4,924	(d) 912
May	1,335	647	134	(d) 16,149	(d) 6,211	(d) 1,034
June	1,347	650	133	(d) 16,475	(d) 6,242	(d) 787
1955-56—				(d)	(d)	(d)
July	1,356	652	132	15,145	6,049	789
August	1,370	655	131	16,792	6,242	890
September	1,383	656	130	15,952	6,602	936
October	1,392	657	130	14,956	6,618	910
November	1,409	663	130	14,839	6,052	1,007
December	1,420	666	129	14,375	5,888	1,004
January p				10,100	4,800	850
February p				11,800	5,300	850
March p				14,400	6,150	1,000

(a) Registration in Victoria is according to purpose of use and not type of vehicle : consequently motor car registrations are overstated by the inclusion of commercial vehicles, registered for private use. Prior to 12th November, 1951, primary producers' private cars registered in Victoria were included in commercial vehicle registrations. (b) Excludes extra-Metropolitan area of Western Australia. (c) Excludes Northern Territory. (d) Includes some new registrations effected in preceding months but not passed into central registration records until subsequent months.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS : OPERATIONS AND REVENUE.

Period.	Revenue Train-Miles.	Goods and Livestock.(a)		Passenger Journeys.	Revenue.	
		Tons Carried.	Net Ton- miles.(b)		Gross.	Net.
		'000.	'000.	'000.	£'000.	£'000.
Monthly Average—						
1936-37	6,088	2,678	330.7	31,469	3,517	910
1937-38	6,418	2,952	360.1	32,078	3,705	852
1938-39	6,463	2,737	338.8	32,070	3,662	666
1947-48	7,310	3,305	494.5	42,564	6,380	443
1948-49	7,690	3,428	517.7	42,225	7,165	85
1949-50	7,785	3,362	516.9	42,054	7,683	-205
1950-51	7,390	3,392	523.1	39,674	8,804	-594
1951-52	7,780	3,672	562.9	41,707	11,626	-721
1952-53	7,394	3,644	547.8	41,468	12,903	-560
1953-54	7,789	3,880	579.4	42,557	14,155	140
1954-55	7,911	3,951	608.0	43,071	14,498	124
Monthly Total—						
1953-54—					(c)	(c)
December	7,727	3,671	601.5	40,407	14,130	265
January	7,458	3,573	513.7	40,466	13,599	862
February	6,533	3,470	481.2	42,745	12,233	-716
March	8,289	4,078	597.0	46,239	14,764	1,039
April	7,463	3,611	558.8	41,845	13,772	344
May	8,274	3,968	635.2	45,559	14,686	-181
June	7,932	3,987	607.2	41,895	15,922	-1,769
1954-55—						
July	8,073	4,207	631.9	41,967	14,456	732
August	7,948	4,159	619.3	44,603	15,123	1,362
September	8,082	4,260	639.5	43,017	15,375	1,442
October	8,287	4,178	665.4	42,696	15,304	1,174
November	8,176	4,343	681.4	44,244	15,856	1,228
December	8,045	4,143	616.9	41,120	15,786	1,179
January	7,476	3,339	531.2	40,885	13,082	-40
February	7,253	3,503	539.9	44,395	12,947	-460
March	7,606	3,910	563.5	42,811	13,725	-292
April	7,759	3,537	575.3	41,878	13,704	-761
May	8,141	4,011	633.9	46,449	14,762	-860
June	8,083	3,827	597.2	42,791	14,134	-2,073
1955-56 p—						
July	8,155	4,125	630.2	43,104	14,215	-92
August	8,371	4,350	635.4	44,990	15,418	+161
September	8,229	4,238	635.4	43,198	15,514	+780
October	8,249	4,129	627.9	45,489	15,259	+180
November	8,007	4,251	635.7	40,916	15,535	-41

(a) Excludes South Brisbane-Border section of Uniform Gauge Railway. (b) From 1946-47 figures are partly estimated.
(c) Calculated from monthly returns of revenue and expenditure and not strictly comparable with annual figures above as monthly details exclude certain items of revenue and expenditure which are only allocated on an annual basis.

NOTE.—Minus sign (—) denotes loss.

For meaning of symbols p, — see page 1.

SHIPPING CARGOES.

'000 TONS WEIGHT.

(Excluding all cargo shipped by ton measurement.)(a).

Period.	Oversea Cargo.		Interstate Cargo Shipped from—						
	Shipped from Australian Ports.	Discharged at Australian Ports.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. (b)
Monthly Average—									
1936-37.. ..	419	304	228	71	30	163	3	47	542
1937-38.. ..	478	364	247	73	24	186	3	53	586
1938-39.. ..	428	350	228	72	27	219	5	51	602
1948-49.. ..	452	488	257	41	32	152	5	32	519
1949-50.. ..	422	641	233	37	30	198	5	32	535
1950-51.. ..	450	757	232	37	36	222	5	28	560
1951-52.. ..	374	810	280	37	45	238	11	29	641
1952-53.. ..	504	644	285	34	53	247	52	33	704
1953-54.. ..	479	711	307	39	36	287	54	35	758
1954-55.. ..	507	916	302	74	43	318	73	41	851
Monthly Total—									
1953-54—									
February ..	391	617	234	20	22	268	54	18	617
March ..	537	804	332	22	28	295	59	43	779
April ..	394	731	274	54	34	305	37	22	727
May ..	454	779	301	63	55	327	36	50	832
June ..	451	817	300	83	38	298	72	35	827
1954-55—									
July ..	565	892	333	56	52	346	108	50	945
August ..	443	857	307	62	48	359	86	39	901
September ..	466	750	308	77	56	230	80	47	799
October ..	558	836	330	90	49	335	54	46	904
November(c) ..	319	799	182	43	29	318	34	24	630
December ..	651	873	314	86	74	266	51	23	815
January ..	500	831	274	91	45	361	42	50	863
February ..	466	935	269	78	54	318	24	55	798
March ..	640	1,015	302	48	19	327	99	39	835
April ..	506	1,073	306	68	51	290	67	35	818
May ..	486	1,058	335	77	28	352	115	42	949
June ..	483	1,073	369	107	13	309	114	43	955
1955-56 p—									
July ..	462	882	405	114	64	326	116	56	1,081
August ..	496	1,060	321	r120	42	334	135	49	r1,001
September ..	450	981	307	88	54	364	r204	51	r1,068
October ..	460	971	291	98	58	340	123	33	943
November ..	508	1,085	292	115	39	287	143	41	917
December ..	560	1,105	243	110	57	253	163	22	848
January ..	463	930	193	84	17	329	174	30	827
February ..	409	913	191	81	21	258	105	17	673

(a) Additional to figures for Tons Measurement on page 44.
ports 2nd-16th November (approx.).

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

(c) Strike in all main

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

SHIPPING CARGOES.

'000 TONS OF 40 CUBIC FEET MEASUREMENT.
(Excluding all cargo shipped by ton weight.)(a)

Period.	Oversea Cargo.		Interstate Cargo Shipped from—						
	Shipped from Australian Ports.	Discharged at Australian Ports.	New South Wales.	Victoria	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. (b)
Monthly Average—									
1936-37.. ..	78	169	56	22	9	20	5	21	133
1937-38.. ..	91	190	59	28	13	26	5	25	156
1938-39.. ..	91	183	56	21	13	22	5	27	144
1948-49.. ..	114	214	29	19	10	16	6	18	98
1949-50.. ..	116	298	25	21	11	17	7	20	101
1950-51.. ..	108	333	27	20	10	20	6	27	110
1951-52.. ..	103	391	32	25	9	17	6	21	110
1952-53.. ..	121	161	31	22	8	17	9	19	106
1953-54.. ..	113	234	36	35	10	19	8	20	128
1954-55.. ..	118	284	34	35	10	16	8	20	123
Monthly Total—									
1953-54—									
February ..	87	187	28	35	8	15	5	25	116
March ..	175	285	44	43	9	23	9	23	151
April ..	160	202	40	42	12	11	7	40	152
May ..	158	288	36	34	11	23	9	25	138
June ..	106	270	33	37	8	17	9	23	127
1954-55—									
July ..	112	272	43	42	12	26	7	17	147
August ..	103	258	40	34	11	20	9	19	133
September ..	121	270	37	36	14	17	10	25	139
October ..	101	265	30	43	11	16	6	14	120
November(c) ..	67	235	16	20	6	12	8	12	74
December ..	126	265	43	42	9	16	6	28	144
January ..	90	370	30	23	5	12	7	23	100
February ..	78	259	31	34	11	11	8	13	108
March ..	141	330	33	42	10	17	6	21	129
April ..	130	267	32	31	9	15	9	28	124
May ..	206	310	28	38	9	14	10	21	120
June ..	145	302	36	38	9	17	13	21	134
1955-56 p—									
July ..	127	316	31	50	11	16	9	36	154
August ..	130	324	25	32	9	16	6	32	120
September ..	123	289	34	36	13	16	12	37	148
October ..	133	324	24	38	11	14	6	23	116
November ..	110	322	27	39	17	16	12	28	139
December ..	104	316	22	32	3	14	8	18	97
January ..	65	213	15	20	4	5	5	14	63
February ..	43	269	12	9	4	4	4	31	64

(a) Additional to figures for Tons Weight on page 43.
November (approx.).

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

(c) Strike in all ports 2nd-16th

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

POST OFFICE ACTIVITY.

Period.	Receipts of P.M.G.'s Department.(a)	Broadcast Listeners' Licences in force at end of period.	Telephone Services connected at end of period.	
			Lines.	Instruments.
	£'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.
	Monthly Average.			
1936-37	1,318	938	440	595
1937-38	1,396	1,056	465	630
1938-39	1,447	1,130	488	662
1948-49	2,776	1,919	734	1,028
1949-50	3,196	2,030	793	1,110
1950-51	3,732	(b)2,110	864	1,209
1951-52	4,948	1,961	927	1,301
1952-53	5,371	1,986	985	1,384
1953-54	5,650	2,042	1,050	1,476
1954-55	6,069	2,035	1,127	1,587
	Monthly Total.			
1953-54—				
March	6,247	2,011	1,034	1,453
April	5,588	2,030	1,039	1,460
May	5,778	2,031	1,044	1,467
June	6,105	2,042	1,050	1,476
1954-55—				
July	5,657	2,027	1,055	1,484
August	5,558	2,029	1,062	1,494
September	5,903	2,030	1,068	1,504
October	5,929	2,047	1,075	1,513
November	6,391	2,053	1,081	1,522
December	7,038	2,044	1,088	1,531
January	5,160	2,039	1,095	1,540
February	5,927	2,047	1,101	1,548
March	6,619	2,031	1,107	1,558
April	5,769	2,028	1,113	1,566
May	6,231	2,039	1,120	1,576
June	6,637	2,035	1,127	1,587
1955-56—				
July	5,921	2,036	1,135	1,598
August	6,509	2,045	1,143	1,610
September	6,493	2,051	1,151	1,622
October	6,266	2,051	1,159	1,634
November	6,437	2,050	1,166	1,643
December	7,142	2,055	1,173	1,653
January	6,097	2,065	1,179	1,662
February	6,285	2,069	1,185	1,671
March	6,803	2,068	1,190	1,679

(a) Actual collections.
of one are included.

(b) During the period July, 1942, to December, 1951, supplementary licences for receivers in excess

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS.(a)
LIABILITIES AND ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.
(£ million.)

Period	Deposits.(b)			Advances.	Govern- ment and Municipal Securities. (c)	Special Accounts with Com- monwealth Bank.	Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Common- wealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.					
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1936-37.. ..	184.7	112.9	297.6	262.5	15.0	..	34.2	24.5
1937-38.. ..	194.8	120.0	314.8	274.4	21.4	..	37.1	20.7
1938-39.. ..	198.8	118.9	317.7	288.1	20.5	..	33.6	21.5
1948-49.. ..	211.3	565.1	776.4	(d)368.6	61.5	322.7	48.0	22.1
1949-50.. ..	224.5	685.6	910.1	403.9	83.8	377.0	52.0	26.5
1950-51.. ..	247.7	896.5	1,144.2	479.3	90.2	500.3	59.3	36.9
1951-52.. ..	238.2	963.5	1,201.7	621.4	68.4	466.0	60.6	32.4
1952-53.. ..	218.7	943.7	1,162.4	638.1	86.5	211.7	74.7	123.1
1953-54.. ..	239.8	1,035.7	1,275.5	658.5	130.3	285.2	71.2	99.4
1954-55.. ..	263.0	1,047.7	1,310.7	776.8	121.9	269.1	66.9	51.6
1953-54—								
March	244.3	1,118.7	1,363.0	664.3	141.9	315.4	66.8	133.0
April	245.3	1,109.6	1,354.9	684.7	142.0	332.6	63.3	91.6
May	247.7	1,075.6	1,323.3	695.4	136.0	318.8	75.4	67.1
June	251.3	1,053.7	1,305.0	701.7	133.4	313.8	67.7	58.0
1954-55—								
July	254.3	1,017.4	1,271.7	724.9	123.6	308.4	65.7	33.7
August	252.9	1,003.8	1,256.7	738.8	120.3	291.9	65.4	32.4
September ..	259.9	1,000.4	1,260.3	757.1	117.3	287.8	65.0	22.8
October	264.3	1,021.6	1,285.9	780.1	116.1	272.3	65.0	35.4
November ..	264.1	1,035.2	1,299.3	786.2	114.8	269.1	67.7	41.1
December (e) ..	261.1	1,056.6	1,317.7	785.7	114.3	259.6	69.7	47.1
January	264.9	1,069.9	1,334.8	769.8	116.4	259.6	83.7	74.7
February	267.2	1,089.0	1,356.2	772.9	124.6	259.6	71.7	96.5
March (f) ..	267.2	1,097.1	1,364.3	775.9	132.5	259.6	65.8	95.5
April	262.6	1,082.7	1,345.3	795.8	130.4	259.6	59.2	65.9
May	268.8	1,059.9	1,328.7	811.4	126.0	259.6	59.6	48.6
June	267.2	1,040.0	1,307.2	817.7	124.6	245.8	65.4	27.8
1955-56—								
July	267.9	1,012.9	1,280.8	829.9	113.9	238.8	69.2	18.8
August	264.3	999.9	1,264.2	820.4	110.4	231.9	67.0	22.0
September ..	260.9	996.8	1,257.7	823.1	106.2	231.9	65.4	23.6
October	264.0	1,013.1	1,277.1	831.4	106.8	231.9	64.1	27.5
November ..	261.8	1,034.0	1,295.8	823.3	110.3	231.9	65.1	31.9
December (g) ..	259.3	1,062.2	1,321.5	814.5	110.4	231.9	71.4	45.0
January	261.3	1,070.5	1,331.8	784.2	113.4	231.9	76.4	92.8
February	259.7	1,072.2	1,331.9	773.7	117.2	247.4	66.9	111.6
March	259.4	1,075.0	1,334.4	776.2	119.0	263.9	65.7	91.6

(a) Previously Nine Trading Banks. Now includes Australia and New Zealand Bank Ltd., The Bank of Adelaide, The Bank of New South Wales, The Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd., The Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Ltd., The English, Scottish and Australian Bank Ltd., The National Bank of Australasia Ltd., The Queensland National Bank Ltd. (in vol. liq.) and from March, 1955, The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.). Averages of liabilities and assets on Mondays in period until December, 1946; thereafter averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays. (b) Excludes inscribed stock. (c) Excludes Treasury Bills. (d) Figures for 1945-46 and onwards are not strictly comparable with those for previous periods owing to exclusion from advances of bills receivable and minor miscellaneous assets. (e) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fifth Wednesday. (f) The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.) included from March, 1955. (g) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbols .., —, see page 1.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS(a)—continued.

RATIOS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES TO TOTAL DEPOSITS(b) WITHIN AUSTRALIA. (Per Cent.)

Period.	Percentages of Various Categories of Assets to Total Deposits.					Percentage Non-interest bearing to Total Deposits.
	Cash in Australia.	Cash + Treasury Bills.	Advances.	Advances + Government and Municipal Securities in Australia.(c)	Special Accounts with Commonwealth Bank.	
Average of Weekly Figures—						
1936-37	11.49	19.73	88.20	93.26	..	37.93
1937-38	11.79	18.37	87.15	93.95	..	38.13
1938-39	10.58	17.36	90.70	97.15	..	37.42
1948-49	6.18	9.03	(d)47.47	(d)55.39	41.56	72.79
1949-50	5.71	8.62	44.35	53.55	41.40	75.28
1950-51	5.19	8.41	41.89	49.69	43.73	78.35
1951-52	5.04	7.74	51.71	57.40	38.78	80.18
1952-53	6.43	17.02	54.89	62.33	18.21	81.19
1953-54	5.59	13.38	51.63	61.85	22.36	81.20
1954-55	5.10	9.04	59.26	68.56	20.53	79.93
1953-54—						
March	4.90	14.66	48.74	59.15	23.14	82.07
April	4.67	11.43	50.53	61.01	24.54	81.90
May	5.70	10.77	52.55	62.83	24.09	81.28
June	5.19	9.63	53.77	63.99	24.04	80.74
1954-55—						
July	5.16	7.81	57.01	66.73	24.25	80.00
August	5.20	7.78	58.78	68.35	23.22	79.88
September	5.16	6.97	60.07	69.38	22.83	79.38
October	5.06	7.81	60.66	69.68	21.18	79.45
November	5.21	8.37	60.51	69.34	20.71	79.67
December (e)	5.29	8.86	59.63	68.30	19.70	80.18
January	6.28	11.88	57.67	66.40	19.45	80.15
February	5.29	12.41	56.99	66.18	19.14	80.30
March (f)	4.82	11.82	56.87	66.59	19.03	80.42
April	4.40	9.30	59.15	68.84	19.30	80.48
May	4.49	8.15	61.07	70.56	19.54	79.77
June	5.01	7.14	62.55	72.08	18.80	79.56
1955-56—						
July	5.41	6.87	64.80	73.69	18.65	79.08
August	5.30	7.04	64.89	73.62	18.34	79.09
September	5.20	7.07	65.45	73.89	18.44	79.26
October	5.02	7.17	65.10	73.47	18.16	79.33
November	5.03	7.49	63.53	72.05	17.90	79.79
December (g)	5.40	8.81	61.63	69.98	17.55	80.38
January	5.74	12.71	58.89	67.40	17.41	80.38
February	5.02	13.40	58.09	66.89	18.58	80.50
March	4.92	11.79	58.17	67.09	19.78	80.56

(a) See footnote (a) on previous page. (b) Deposits exclude inscribed deposit stock. (c) Excludes Treasury Bills.
 (d) Figures for 1945-46 and onwards are not strictly comparable with those for previous periods owing to exclusion from advances of bills receivable and minor miscellaneous assets. (e) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return on fifth Wednesday. (f) The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.) included from March, 1955. (g) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbols .., —, see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH TRADING BANK OF AUSTRALIA(a),
and
COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA
(RURAL CREDITS, MORTGAGE BANK AND INDUSTRIAL FINANCE DEPARTMENTS).
(£ million.)

Period.	Commonwealth Trading Bank.(a)(b)								Commonwealth Bank—Advances.(b)			
	Deposits.			Ad- vances.	Special Account with Common- wealth Bank. (c)	Coin Bullion, Notes and Cash with Common- wealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.	Other Australian Government and Municipal Securities.	Rural Credits Depart- ment.	Mortgage Bank Depart- ment.	Industrial Finance Department.	
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.								Hire Purchase.	Other.
Average of Weekly Figures—												
1948-49 ..	13.2	51.1	64.3	31.8	..	6.1	..	34.1	1.8	3.2	7.6	4.8
1949-50 ..	14.8	62.5	77.3	45.3	..	6.2	2.0	35.4	13.8	3.5	12.8	6.3
1950-51 ..	19.4	89.2	108.6	62.5	..	7.2	24.0	26.9	13.7	3.8	14.7	7.6
1951-52 ..	20.1	90.6	110.7	76.4	..	6.6	26.4	13.3	19.7	4.1	15.5	8.7
1952-53 ..	22.8	96.7	119.5	(d)59.5	21.7	8.8	(c)17.2	(d)25.8	44.9	4.3	14.8	8.1
1953-54 ..	35.3	120.9	156.2	69.2	34.8	11.0	23.4	29.9	43.2	4.5	16.6	4.7
1954-55 ..	43.6	130.9	174.5	89.1	36.1	10.5	12.3	38.2	62.3	4.8	17.0	6.7
1953-54—												
March ..	37.9	125.3	163.2	71.9	38.3	9.8	18.3	35.1	70.4	4.7	16.4	4.8
April ..	37.9	127.7	165.6	72.1	40.3	9.9	17.9	35.1	74.0	4.7	16.6	4.8
May ..	38.3	126.1	164.4	73.3	39.1	10.7	15.5	35.1	63.6	4.7	16.7	5.0
June ..	37.8	127.9	165.7	76.0	38.7	14.1	12.6	35.1	57.4	4.6	16.8	5.3
1954-55—												
July ..	39.9	125.0	164.9	80.9	38.6	9.3	13.3	35.1	56.2	4.7	16.7	6.0
August ..	41.0	123.7	164.7	84.0	38.5	9.8	8.3	35.1	61.1	4.7	16.8	6.1
September ..	41.9	126.9	168.8	84.1	38.5	10.5	9.6	37.0	54.1	4.7	17.1	6.3
October ..	44.6	128.1	172.7	84.2	37.3	10.4	11.9	39.9	48.3	4.7	17.2	6.3
November ..	44.1	132.1	176.2	86.5	36.7	9.8	14.3	40.1	45.6	4.8	17.3	6.4
December ..	43.8	133.6	177.4	87.4	35.0	10.6	16.3	38.2	41.4	4.8	17.5	6.3
January ..	42.9	127.3	170.2	89.7	35.0	11.6	10.7	36.3	53.6	4.8	17.4	6.2
February ..	42.5	129.5	172.0	90.0	35.0	10.3	12.7	37.7	76.9	4.9	17.1	6.3
March ..	44.2	136.2	180.4	90.9	35.0	11.4	15.3	39.3	85.9	5.0	16.9	6.5
April ..	45.5	136.4	181.9	94.0	35.0	9.2	14.6	39.6	81.7	5.0	16.7	7.4
May ..	45.5	135.9	181.4	97.8	35.0	10.0	12.0	39.6	74.4	5.0	16.7	8.2
June ..	46.2	134.9	181.1	98.5	33.8	12.0	8.9	39.7	64.2	4.9	16.8	8.3
1955-56—												
July ..	48.1	131.3	179.4	103.1	33.2	10.2	5.0	40.0	57.1	5.1	16.8	8.4
August ..	48.6	131.2	179.8	105.4	32.7	9.5	5.7	39.2	50.2	5.1	16.9	8.7
September ..	48.9	131.9	180.8	106.0	32.7	10.4	4.1	40.0	50.4	5.1	16.9	8.8
October ..	48.6	136.5	185.1	105.0	32.7	10.8	8.5	40.0	52.0	5.1	17.0	8.9
November ..	48.4	139.6	188.0	105.0	32.7	10.1	10.5	40.0	46.7	5.1	17.2	9.1
December ..	47.0	140.4	187.4	104.8	32.7	10.9	8.0	40.0	50.4	5.1	17.3	9.4
January ..	47.5	132.5	180.0	105.9	32.7	10.6	2.8	40.1	66.2	5.1	17.0	9.1
February ..	46.7	132.9	179.6	104.8	33.6	9.8	4.2	40.1	98.8	5.0	16.5	9.1
March ..	45.5	135.9	181.4	102.7	35.7	10.1	6.0	36.8	113.5	5.1	16.0	9.1

(a) General Banking Division of Commonwealth Bank prior to 3rd December, 1953. (b) Averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays.
(c) At the beginning of July, 1952, the General Banking Division opened, in the books of the Central Bank, a special deposit account with a balance approximating the amount that would be required if it were subject to Special Account provisions of the Banking Act 1945. This represents a change in the form of liquid assets which were previously held, predominantly in Treasury Bills. (d) Between March and July, 1952, certain loans to building societies and *crédit foncier* loans for housing were transferred from the General Banking Division to the Commonwealth Savings Bank in exchange for Government Securities. The reduction in these loans (held by the General Banking Division) over this period was approximately £24,000,000.
(e) Returns for fifth Wednesday not available. (f) Returns for fourth Wednesday not available.

For meaning of symbols .., —, see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA : CENTRAL BANKING BUSINESS.

(Including Note Issue Department.)

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS.(a)

(£A million.)

Period.	Notes on Issue.			Special Accounts of Trading Banks.	Other Deposits of Trading Banks.	Other Liabilities (excluding Capital and Reserves)	Gold and Balances held Abroad.	Government and other Securities (including Treasury Bills).
	Held by Banks.	Held by Public.	Total.					
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1948-49.. ..	24.9	178.7	203.6	323.9	29.8	174.6	336.2	356.3
1949-50.. ..	27.9	194.3	222.2	379.6	30.7	200.3	434.0	349.0
1950-51.. ..	32.7	219.1	251.8	503.2	34.7	238.2	596.3	366.6
1951-52.. ..	38.1	255.5	293.6	468.8	31.1	270.9	470.6	503.1
1952-53.. ..	36.9	281.3	318.2	212.9	45.4	287.4	363.6	434.8
1953-54.. ..	38.5	299.7	338.2	(b) 306.8	41.7	283.4	512.6	408.0
1954-55.. ..	41.1	316.6	357.7	306.3	36.8	243.5	415.9	459.8
1953-54—								
March	38.5	301.2	339.7	354.9	37.8	258.4	539.6	375.1
April	39.4	307.3	346.7	373.9	33.5	253.9	539.0	389.4
May	39.7	304.3	344.0	358.9	47.0	263.1	540.0	404.3
June	38.7	305.8	344.5	353.5	43.5	266.9	520.9	422.6
1954-55—								
July	38.8	307.2	346.0	348.1	36.7	250.1	478.5	445.0
August	38.8	309.0	347.8	331.4	37.3	246.5	454.0	445.8
September ..	38.4	311.1	349.5	327.3	37.5	255.2	439.4	473.4
October	39.4	312.4	351.8	310.7	36.2	250.1	426.4	470.9
November ..	39.4	313.7	353.1	306.9	38.4	249.5	424.9	472.2
December (c) ..	44.5	322.9	367.4	295.7	36.3	235.7	417.7	471.1
January	46.6	317.0	363.6	295.7	49.2	241.4	414.9	475.0
February	40.9	314.3	355.2	295.7	40.8	246.7	406.8	446.2
March	40.4	317.6	358.0	295.7	36.8	244.3	403.5	438.4
April	42.5	324.3	366.8	295.7	26.2	231.9	382.2	446.7
May	41.3	320.8	362.1	295.6	28.7	234.7	375.8	462.7
June	40.6	322.5	363.1	280.7	37.1	234.5	374.2	470.1
1955-56—								
July	40.1	323.8	363.9	273.1	40.5	217.1	360.2	471.1
August	40.1	325.9	366.0	265.4	36.7	216.0	343.8	486.8
September ..	40.2	328.1	368.3	265.4	36.1	205.9	321.6	502.0
October	40.7	329.6	370.3	265.4	34.4	210.5	303.3	525.4
November ..	41.4	331.4	372.8	265.4	34.8	208.7	301.0	535.3
December (d) ..	48.3	343.5	391.8	265.4	36.5	205.2	297.6	552.8
January	47.4	333.5	380.9	265.4	40.6	207.3	298.1	534.0
February	42.8	330.6	373.4	281.9	33.5	211.4	293.2	511.0
March	41.5	335.9	377.4	300.4	36.0	211.0	274.0	540.6

(a) Averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays in period. (b) From 3rd December, 1953, includes Special Account of Commonwealth Trading Bank. Previously the Special Deposit Account of the General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank was included in "Other Liabilities". (c) Return for fifth Wednesday not available. (d) Return for fourth Wednesday not available.

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS.(a)

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.(b)

(£ million.)

Period.	Deposits.			Advances.	Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Common- wealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.	Other Australian Government and Municipal Securities.
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total				
Average of Weekly Figures—							
1948-49	231.8	634.6	866.4	440.2	58.3	24.0	109.3
1949-50	249.3	771.2	1,020.5	495.4	62.2	29.5	132.3
1950-51	279.6	1,017.6	1,297.2	598.4	71.4	64.0	129.5
1951-52	271.7	1,091.5	1,363.2	759.7	72.3	61.7	96.6
1952-53	256.8	1,076.3	1,333.1	(c)762.3	(d)88.2	(d)144.2	(c)126.2
1953-54	290.4	1,196.0	1,486.4	793.7	87.3	130.1	174.2
1954-55	322.6	1,220.0	1,542.6	938.1	82.0	69.5	174.1
1953-54—							
March	298.3	1,288.1	1,586.4	802.5	82.2	163.6	191.2
April	299.2	1,281.0	1,580.2	823.2	77.9	121.4	191.3
May	301.8	1,245.3	1,547.1	835.4	90.7	93.7	185.3
June	305.2	1,225.3	1,530.5	845.2	87.1	80.1	182.6
1954-55—							
July	310.1	1,184.6	1,494.7	874.8	79.6	54.9	172.8
August	309.5	1,169.5	1,479.0	892.0	79.7	47.6	169.8
September ..	317.7	1,168.0	1,485.7	911.1	80.6	37.3	168.7
October	324.6	1,190.3	1,514.9	935.8	80.1	51.9	170.3
November ..	324.4	1,207.4	1,531.8	944.5	82.5	60.0	169.4
December (e) ..	321.1	1,229.9	1,551.0	946.3	84.8	67.3	166.7
January	324.2	1,239.7	1,563.9	931.8	100.9	90.4	166.7
February	326.1	1,262.6	1,588.7	935.6	86.9	116.4	176.2
March	327.6	1,276.0	1,603.6	940.0	81.0	118.5	185.3
April	324.0	1,260.9	1,584.9	963.9	72.0	86.7	183.5
May	330.2	1,236.5	1,566.7	983.6	74.1	65.5	179.2
June	329.8	1,214.9	1,544.7	990.8	81.8	40.7	177.8
1955-56—							
July	332.4	1,182.3	1,514.7	1,007.7	83.8	27.2	167.5
August	329.2	1,167.9	1,497.1	999.8	80.3	30.9	163.3
September ..	326.5	1,164.7	1,491.2	1,004.4	79.3	30.6	160.1
October	329.1	1,185.9	1,515.0	1,012.3	79.0	39.4	160.8
November ..	326.6	1,210.4	1,537.0	1,004.5	78.8	45.6	164.3
December (f) ..	322.6	1,240.8	1,563.4	995.2	86.5	56.4	165.0
January	325.1	1,243.8	1,568.9	966.3	91.5	98.9	168.3
February	322.9	1,248.9	1,571.8	954.4	81.2	120.8	172.1
March	321.0	1,254.7	1,575.7	954.6	79.9	104.4	170.7

(a) Compiled from returns lodged under the Banking Act 1945-1953. Includes General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (Commonwealth Trading Bank from 3rd December, 1953), the General Bank Department of The Rural Bank of New South Wales, the General Banking Department of the State Bank of South Australia, and from July, 1946, the Rural Department of The Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia. (b) See note (b), page 48. (c) See note (d), page 48. (d) See note (c), page 48. (e) Banks were exempted from furnishing return for fifth Wednesday. (f) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS.

DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS.(a)

(Excluding Debits to Australian Government Accounts at City Branches.)

(£ million.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Total.
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1948-49.. ..	83.1	74.3	24.3	15.5	10.7	4.7	0.2	212.8
1949-50.. ..	104.9	97.8	29.5	19.3	13.7	5.6	0.3	271.1
1950-51.. ..	145.1	134.9	39.0	26.8	19.3	7.4	0.4	372.9
1951-52.. ..	156.6	142.3	41.5	30.8	21.8	8.9	0.5	402.4
1952-53.. ..	151.9	132.0	43.8	30.1	22.1	8.8	0.6	389.3
1953-54.. ..	171.7	154.9	51.0	32.8	25.4	9.9	0.8	446.5
1954-55.. ..	187.5	176.2	53.9	36.3	26.2	10.7	0.8	491.6
1953-54—								
March	184.7	180.4	48.4	36.3	26.8	12.0	0.7	489.3
April	166.2	165.1	47.8	33.6	25.8	10.3	1.0	449.8
May	183.0	177.3	54.4	36.4	26.9	11.8	0.8	490.6
June	194.9	171.7	59.3	36.2	26.1	11.1	0.7	500.0
1954-55—								
July	181.8	161.0	56.0	34.9	26.2	10.7	0.7	471.3
August	170.6	156.5	49.5	32.1	24.3	9.8	0.6	443.4
September	179.7	168.5	54.1	34.5	25.4	9.8	0.7	472.7
October	190.3	178.0	56.3	35.5	26.8	10.0	0.7	497.6
November	185.8	170.4	54.8	36.2	25.6	9.9	0.7	483.4
December	194.5	184.4	55.6	37.5	27.1	11.0	0.9	511.0
January	173.8	165.9	52.0	34.3	27.6	9.2	0.9	463.7
February	188.3	188.8	53.3	37.1	26.3	10.1	0.8	504.7
March (b)	186.0	187.1	50.3	38.5	27.1	12.0	0.9	501.9
April	185.5	174.6	51.4	36.1	25.9	10.7	0.9	485.1
May	203.3	191.7	56.5	39.3	28.2	12.1	1.0	532.1
June	206.0	182.3	56.6	38.5	25.0	12.6	0.9	521.9
1955-56—								
July	201.7	183.8	59.4	37.8	26.1	11.0	0.9	520.7
August	186.9	167.3	53.2	36.0	23.9	11.1	0.9	479.3
September	193.7	169.3	56.7	36.3	25.5	10.8	1.0	493.3
October	202.9	183.8	57.0	37.6	25.9	11.0	1.0	519.2
November	216.1	196.1	57.7	41.6	27.7	11.2	1.0	551.4
December	214.1	205.2	59.6	42.6	28.8	11.8	1.0	563.1
January	183.9	172.2	52.9	39.3	30.0	10.4	1.1	489.8
February	187.1	184.0	50.9	39.8	27.8	10.9	1.0	501.5
March	199.7	191.1	54.5	41.4	26.8	12.2	1.2	526.9

(a) Compiled from returns lodged under the Banking Act 1945-1953. Averages of four or five weeks ended on last Wednesday. Includes in addition to the banks included in series on page 50, the Rural Credits, Mortgage Bank and Industrial Finance Departments of the Commonwealth Bank.

(b) Debits to Customers' Accounts relating to the transfer of accounts from The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.) to The National Bank of Australasia Ltd. have been excluded from March, 1955.

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS AND SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

(£ million.)

At end of—	Amounts on Deposit in Savings Banks.									War Savings and Savings Certificates— Net Amount Outstanding.
	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queens- land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.	
1936-37 ..	82.0	75.7	27.3	26.5	11.8	7.2	0.1	0.3	230.9	..
1937-38 ..	86.0	78.9	28.2	27.2	12.0	7.7	0.1	0.3	240.4	..
1938-39 ..	87.5	80.5	29.0	27.4	12.4	8.4	0.1	0.3	245.6	..
1948-49 ..	244.5	239.3	87.4	81.2	37.5	22.4	0.7	1.2	714.2	62.2
1949-50 ..	258.9	257.1	92.2	87.7	39.6	24.3	0.9	1.4	762.1	55.0
1950-51 ..	284.5	281.8	98.8	97.8	44.7	27.1	1.0	1.7	837.4	48.1
1951-52 ..	304.5	300.8	102.7	103.7	47.2	30.1	1.1	1.8	891.9	41.8
1952-53 ..	319.1	320.0	109.4	113.9	49.8	32.1	1.1	2.1	947.5	35.6
1953-54 ..	339.8	339.8	117.4	122.9	52.6	34.0	1.3	2.3	1,010.1	30.3
1954-55 ..	358.6	364.8	124.8	131.7	53.6	35.8	1.5	2.6	1,073.4	26.7
1953-54—										
March ..	331.3	329.0	114.3	119.1	51.1	33.3	1.2	2.3	981.6	31.3
April ..	332.3	330.0	114.3	119.4	51.3	33.4	1.2	2.3	984.2	30.9
May ..	333.3	332.6	114.9	120.2	51.7	33.6	1.2	2.3	989.8	30.6
June ..	339.8	339.8	117.4	122.9	52.6	34.0	1.3	2.3	^a 1,010.1	30.3
1954-55—										
July ..	341.9	341.8	119.0	124.3	52.7	34.3	1.3	2.4	1,017.7	30.0
August ..	343.1	344.7	120.4	125.0	53.1	34.8	1.3	2.4	1,024.8	29.7
September	344.3	346.6	121.4	125.5	53.1	34.9	1.3	2.5	1,029.6	29.3
October	346.7	348.4	122.2	126.4	53.3	34.8	1.3	2.5	1,035.6	28.9
November	347.2	350.0	122.9	126.5	53.3	34.7	1.4	2.5	1,038.5	28.7
December	347.8	350.9	123.4	126.5	52.9	34.7	1.4	2.5	1,040.1	28.3
January	350.2	353.2	123.4	127.5	53.1	34.8	1.3	2.5	1,046.0	28.0
February	350.7	354.0	122.6	128.2	52.7	35.0	1.4	2.5	1,047.1	27.7
March	350.9	354.5	122.2	128.5	52.5	35.1	1.4	2.5	1,047.6	27.5
April ..	352.5	356.7	122.5	129.0	52.7	35.4	1.4	2.5	1,052.7	27.2
May ..	351.4	357.3	122.1	128.9	52.5	35.4	1.4	2.5	1,051.5	26.9
June ..	358.6	364.8	124.8	131.7	53.6	35.8	1.5	2.6	^a 1,073.4	26.6
1955-56—										
July ..	360.4	366.9	126.3	132.6	54.2	36.2	1.5	2.6	1,080.7	26.3
August	358.9	367.3	126.7	132.5	54.3	36.7	1.6	2.7	1,080.7	26.0
September	359.5	368.9	126.5	132.9	54.6	36.7	1.6	2.7	1,083.4	25.7
October	362.3	370.1	127.6	133.6	54.9	36.8	1.5	2.7	1,089.5	25.4
November	361.8	371.1	127.7	132.9	54.7	36.5	1.5	2.7	1,088.9	25.2
December	364.1	371.4	128.1	132.8	54.4	36.4	1.5	2.7	1,091.4	24.9
January	367.3	371.5	127.9	132.7	54.7	36.3	4.3		1,094.7	24.6
February	371.2	373.5	128.2	132.9	55.0	36.6	4.3		1,101.7	24.4
March	374.4	375.3	129.1	133.1	55.4	36.5	4.4		1,108.2	24.2

(a) Interest added 1953-54, £17.8m; 1954-55, £19.9m. The major part of this interest was added in June.

For meaning of symbol .., see page 1.

LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS.(a)

Period.			New Policies Issued.(b)				Premiums (c)		Claims, &c., Paid.(d)		New Loans Granted. (e)
			Ordinary Department.		Industrial Department		Ordinary Department.	Industrial Department.	Ordinary Department.	Industrial Department.	
			Number.	Sum Assured.	Number.	Sum Assured.					
				£'000.		£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
Monthly Average—											
1937			12,296	4,120	36,148	1,684	1,045	474	747	223	n.a.
1938			11,470	3,867	32,757	1,530	1,075	617	781	246	n.a.
1939			11,293	3,886	32,125	1,545	1,144	541	835	303	n.a.
1948-49.. ..			20,201	10,618	25,254	2,458	2,539	967	1,112	497	1,476
1949-50.. ..			20,538	12,243	24,999	2,509	2,877	1,003	1,224	512	2,778
1950-51.. ..			21,642	15,206	22,713	2,423	3,210	1,043	1,310	491	3,893
1951-52.. ..			23,607	18,464	23,216	2,817	3,651	1,102	1,441	546	3,963
1952-53.. ..			23,643	18,828	22,853	2,946	4,186	1,147	1,576	619	3,011
1953-54.. ..			23,712	21,177	19,974	2,715	4,680	1,173	1,763	672	2,872
1954-55.. ..			23,505	24,432	18,415	2,734	5,175	1,218	1,983	738	4,319
Monthly Total—											
1953-54—											
February			16,169	13,397	17,919	2,412	3,812	1,282	1,493	611	1,880
March			21,794	18,880	24,477	3,386	4,926	1,274	2,012	735	3,535
April			21,324	20,967	18,942	2,664	4,433	1,122	1,579	643	3,233
May			25,064	21,380	22,500	3,121	5,183	1,178	1,840	744	3,013
June			25,806	23,759	21,076	2,844	6,072	1,200	1,991	726	3,418
1954-55—											
July			27,010	26,383	18,704	2,627	5,166	1,189	2,111	805	3,624
August			25,513	23,916	21,284	3,113	5,102	1,191	2,042	779	3,312
September ..			30,787	31,146	29,567	4,312	5,137	1,327	2,120	724	3,627
October			22,427	20,953	17,126	2,485	4,617	1,210	1,969	744	4,440
November ..			22,973	22,321	19,599	2,874	4,885	1,315	1,823	795	4,149
December ..			31,474	37,228	16,406	2,661	5,592	1,489	2,320	638	4,806
January			11,188	10,383	4,967	720	4,153	675	1,293	559	2,962
February			16,358	15,828	17,464	2,541	4,498	1,181	1,764	736	3,731
March			22,932	23,258	18,489	2,687	5,340	1,258	2,161	814	5,111
April			19,535	20,126	17,156	2,688	4,750	1,162	1,849	666	4,875
May			24,860	31,169	19,992	2,982	6,112	1,260	2,157	798	4,327
June			27,002	29,666	20,225	3,119	6,749	1,359	2,182	795	6,861
1955-56—											
July			29,780	31,298	17,383	2,649	5,812	1,181	2,424	842	4,083
August			28,314	30,682	21,003	3,316	5,702	1,182	2,322	864	5,217
September ..			35,366	36,605	22,065	3,476	6,072	1,272	2,415	814	5,191
October			20,584	22,642	19,056	2,887	5,192	1,262	2,020	821	4,447
November ..			25,697	26,896	18,249	2,846	5,352	1,284	2,177	784	6,011
December ..			27,944	45,467	17,075	2,864	6,340	1,558	2,584	706	5,473
January			13,527	14,085	3,568	507	4,786	641	1,619	595	3,518
February ..			20,759	20,434	16,586	2,495	4,990	1,229	2,250	769	4,376

(a) Excludes business of the Government Insurance Office of New South Wales and the Queensland State Government Insurance Office which operate only in New South Wales and Queensland respectively. Monthly averages for the years 1937 to 1947 are based on annual returns for the financial years of the companies. From 1947-48 the figures have been compiled from monthly returns.
 (b) Excludes annuity policies. (c) Includes consideration for annuities. (d) Includes claims paid on death or maturity, payments made on surrender of policies, annuities and bonuses paid in cash. (e) Excludes advances of premiums.

For meaning of symbols n.a., —, see page 1.

EXCHANGE RATES, GOLD PRICES AND SECURITY YIELDS.

Period.	Exchange Rates.(a)			Gold Prices.(a)		Commonwealth Government Securities taxed at Current Commonwealth Rates.		Private First Mortgages Registered in New South Wales
	Australia on London.(b)	London on New York. (b)	Australia on New York. (c)	Australia.	London.	Short Dated 2 years.(d)	Long Dated 12 years.(d)	
	£A. per £100 Stg.	\$ per £Stg.	\$ per £A.	£A. per fine oz.	£Stg. per fine oz.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent. (e)
1936-37	125.25	4.939	3.929	8.761	7.041	(f) 3.57	(g) 3.94	(h) 5.3
1937-38	125.25	4.980	3.961	8.690	7.001	(f) 3.30	(g) 3.71	(h) 5.3
1938-39	125.25	4.738	3.759	9.137	7.340	(f) 3.67	(g) 3.84	(i) 5.5
1948-49	125.25	4.030	3.204	10.763	8.613	2.07	3.12	(i) 4.4
1949-50	125.25	3.074	2.445	14.443	11.557	1.95	3.13	4.4
1950-51	125.25	2.800	2.228	15.492	12.400	1.99	3.21	4.4
1951-52	125.25	2.796	2.224	15.492	12.400	2.05	3.95	4.4
1952-53	125.25	2.804	2.231	15.492	12.400	3.03	4.54	4.7
1953-54	125.25	2.813	2.238	15.514	12.411	3.10	4.44	4.9
1954-55	125.25	2.797	2.226	15.625	12.536	3.49	4.50	5.2
1953-54—								(i) (j)
March	125.25	2.815	2.240	15.492	12.407	3.17	4.47	4.9
April	125.25	2.818	2.243	15.492	12.437	3.24	4.46	4.9
May	125.25	2.819	2.243	15.625	12.445	3.34	4.47	5.0
June	125.25	2.818	2.243	15.625	12.444	3.42	4.40	5.0
1954-55—								
July	125.25	2.818	2.242	15.625	12.449	3.54	4.47	5.0
August	125.25	2.813	2.239	15.625	12.458	3.47	4.49	5.0
September ..	125.25	2.801	2.229	15.625	12.522	3.56	4.48	5.0
October	125.25	2.798	2.226	15.625	12.541	3.43	4.49	5.0
November ..	125.25	2.795	2.224	15.625	12.541	3.39	4.50	5.1
December ..	125.25	2.788	2.218	15.625	12.566	3.48	4.52	5.2
January	125.25	2.786	2.217	15.625	12.580	3.35	4.49	5.3
February	125.25	2.784	2.218	15.625	12.589	3.29	4.49	5.3
March	125.25	2.792	2.220	15.625	12.557	3.49	4.53	5.3
April	125.25	2.797	2.226	15.625	12.533	3.55	4.53	5.4
May	125.25	2.796	2.225	15.625	12.534	3.61	4.49	5.4
June	125.25	2.790	2.220	15.625	12.560	3.74	4.53	5.5
1955-56—								
July	125.25	2.785	2.217	15.625	12.583	3.91	4.53	5.5
August	125.25	2.787	2.218	15.625	12.569	4.08	4.51	5.5
September ..	125.25	2.786	2.217	15.625	12.556	4.23	4.51	5.5
October	125.25	2.739	2.222	15.625	12.528	3.96	4.53	5.6
November ..	125.25	2.802	2.230	15.625	12.477	4.07	4.52	5.6
December ..	125.25	2.803	2.230	15.625	12.478	4.19	4.53	5.7
January	125.25	2.807	2.234	15.625	12.465	4.13	4.54	5.8
February	125.25	2.807	2.233	15.625	12.466	4.26	4.57	5.8
March	125.25	2.805	2.233	15.625	12.472	4.68	5.12	5.9

(a) Average of daily quotations. (b) Average of buying and selling rates for telegraphic transfers. (c) Selling rate. Direct quotation. (d) Rates for securities maturing in 2 and 12 years, estimated from rates on securities maturing in 0-5, and 10 or more years, respectively. Figures relate to last Wednesday in month. (e) Weighted average twelve months. (f) Under 5 years taxed at 1930 Commonwealth rates. (g) Ten years and over taxed at 1930 Commonwealth rates. (h) Urban securities only. (i) Rural and urban securities. In previous issues this series related to urban securities only. (j) Average rate on mortgages registered in three months ending with month shown.

INTEREST RATES.

(Per Cent. per Annum.)

Date of Change in Rate.	Trading Banks—						Common-wealth Savings Bank Deposits (Maximum Rate).	Treasury Bills (Discount Rate).	Common-wealth Loans (Long Term).
	Fixed Deposits—				Overdrafts (Maximum Rate).				
	3 months.	6 months.	12 months.	24 months.	Common-wealth Trading Bank.(a)	Private Trading Banks.			
1938—9th November	2.00	2.50	2.75	3.00	4.25	} (b) {	2.00	1.75	3.88
1940—24th January ..	1.75	2.25	2.50	2.75	4.25		2.00	1.75	3.88
1st March ..	1.75	2.25	2.50	2.75	4.25		2.00	1.75	3.63
28th May ..	1.50	2.00	2.25	2.50	4.25		2.00	1.50	3.25
1941—22nd Sept. ..	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.25	4.25	} 5.00 {	2.00	1.50	3.25
1942—14th March ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.25		2.00	1.50	3.25
1943—1st May ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.25		2.00	1.25	3.25
1944—17th January ..	1.00	1.25	1.50	2.00	4.25		2.00	1.25	3.25
11th August ..	0.50	0.75	1.25	1.75	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.25	3.25
1945—1st March ..	0.50	0.75	1.25	1.75	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.25
1st December	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.25
1946—20th November	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.13
1947—1st January ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	1.00	3.13
1949—1st May ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	0.75	3.13
1951—21st August ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	0.75	3.75
1952—29th July ..	1.00	1.25	1.50	(d)1.75	4.75	5.00	2.25	1.00	3.75
25th November	1.00	1.25	1.50	(d)1.75	4.75	5.00	2.25	1.00	4.50
1955—1st January ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.75	5.00	2.50	1.00	4.50
1956—15th March ..	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	4.75	5.00	2.50	1.00	4.50
1st April ..	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	(e) 6.00	(e) 6.00	2.75	1.00	4.50

(a) Prior to 3rd December, 1953, General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank. (b) Rates for Private Trading Banks not published, but predominant rates between 1936 and 1940 were 5.25 per cent. to 5.50 per cent. On 1st July, 1940, rates in excess of 5.25 per cent. were reduced by 0.25 per cent. and on 1st January, 1942, there was a further reduction of 0.125 per cent. (c) 1 per cent. on amounts in excess of £10,000. (d) 1.50 per cent. on amounts in excess of £10,000. (e) Average rate on all advances not to exceed 5½ per cent.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATES: SHORT-TERM DEBT REDEEMABLE IN AUSTRALIA.(a)

(£'000.)

Date.	Common-wealth.	States.	Total.	Date.	Common-wealth.	States.	Total.
30th June—				1954-55—			
1937 ..	..	46,408	46,408	30th Nov. ..	195,000	..	195,000
1938 ..	..	46,598	46,598	31st Dec. ..	215,000	..	215,000
1939 ..	..	50,228	50,228	31st Jan. ..	230,000	..	230,000
				28th Feb. ..	225,000	..	225,000
1949 ..	123,280	..	123,280	31st March ..	220,000	..	220,000
1950 ..	108,280	..	108,280	30th April ..	210,000	..	210,000
1951 ..	108,280	2,400	110,680	31st May ..	165,000	..	165,000
1952 ..	153,280	..	153,280	30th June ..	160,000	..	160,000
1953 ..	225,000	..	225,000				
1954 ..	190,000	..	190,000	1955-56—			
1955 ..	160,000	..	160,000	31st July ..	150,000	..	150,000
1953-54—				31st August	155,000	..	155,000
30th April ..	185,000	..	185,000	30th Sept. ..	180,000	2,400	182,400
31st May ..	190,000	..	190,000	31st Oct. ..	195,000	2,900	197,900
30th June ..	190,000	..	190,000	30th Nov. ..	210,000	5,900	215,900
1954-55—				31st Dec. ..	255,000	7,400	262,400
31st July ..	155,000	..	155,000	31st Jan. ..	255,000	7,400	262,400
31st August	140,000	..	140,000	29th Feb. ..	265,000	7,400	272,400
30th Sept. ..	185,000	..	185,000	31st Mar. ..	280,000	6,400	286,400
31st Oct. ..	200,000	..	200,000				

(a) Excludes overdrafts and Internal Treasury Bills.
For meaning of symbol .., see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATE FINANCE. (a)

(£ million.)

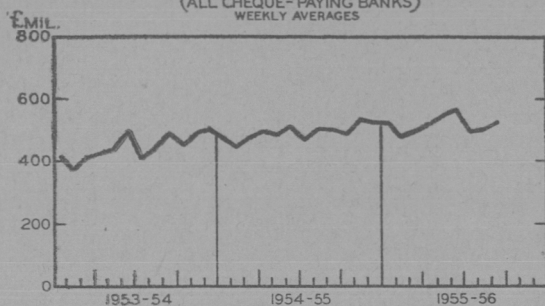
Period.	New South Wales.(b)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Six States.	Commonwealth.	Grand Total.(a)
REVENUE.									
1936-37	49.2	27.2	16.5	11.7	10.2	3.5	118.3	82.8	191.1
1937-38	53.6	27.6	17.3	12.5	10.8	3.6	125.4	89.5	204.8
1938-39	51.1	27.0	19.3	12.3	11.0	3.6	124.3	95.1	209.6
1949-50	106.5	55.6	37.1	26.3	26.0	7.1	258.6	580.7	746.6
1950-51	128.3	63.5	44.7	31.1	29.0	7.8	304.4	841.8	1,032.0
1951-52	167.1	81.7	55.7	37.5	34.0	10.5	386.5	1,016.8	1,260.1
1952-53	180.9	97.0	63.2	44.2	38.7	12.1	436.1	1,040.1	1,310.7
1953-54	186.6	106.7	69.7	48.4	43.6	13.3	468.3	1,022.8	1,320.3
1954-55	193.0	116.8	73.8	48.7	46.1	14.5	492.9	1,067.4	pl,384.8
1955-56 (Estimate) ..	205.6	123.0	77.3	55.7	49.3	16.9	527.8	1,123.8	pl,462.7
1953-54—									
July—January ..	98.5	50.8	38.1	25.1	23.0	6.5	242.0	472.4	631.4
—February ..	112.8	58.2	42.3	28.8	26.1	7.3	275.5	535.8	716.6
—March ..	127.8	67.3	47.6	32.9	29.9	8.6	314.1	638.6	846.1
1954-55—									
July—January ..	103.0	57.5	40.5	25.3	25.1	7.0	258.4	482.1	656.0
—February ..	118.9	65.7	45.5	29.2	28.5	8.0	295.8	555.2	753.7
—March ..	134.4	74.5	51.3	33.4	32.1	9.5	335.2	648.1	874.2
1955-56—									
July—January ..	108.4	59.4	40.9	28.9	26.9	8.8	273.3	507.6	689.3
—February ..	123.1	68.1	45.9	33.4	30.9	10.0	311.4	588.4	786.6
—March ..	133.7	76.6	51.5	37.7	34.6	12.1	346.2	688.4	916.5
EXPENDITURE.									
1936-37	49.2	27.2	16.8	11.6	10.6	3.4	118.8	81.5	190.3
1937-38	53.5	27.6	17.6	12.4	10.8	3.6	125.5	86.0	201.4
1938-39	53.6	27.8	19.3	12.7	11.2	3.6	128.2	94.4	212.8
1949-50	107.7	55.8	37.1	26.6	26.0	7.3	260.5	580.7	748.4
1950-51	128.3	63.9	44.6	30.8	28.8	8.1	304.5	841.8	1,032.0
1951-52	167.0	84.1	55.7	37.5	34.5	10.9	389.7	1,016.8	1,263.3
1952-53	180.8	97.4	63.0	44.2	39.2	11.8	436.4	1,026.7	1,297.6
1953-54	186.5	106.0	69.3	46.6	43.7	13.3	465.4	966.5	1,261.1
1954-55	195.2	115.5	73.6	50.9	46.6	14.7	496.5	997.3	pl,318.3
1955-56 (Estimate) ..	207.8	124.8	77.3	56.4	49.8	17.5	533.6	1,123.6	pl,468.4
1953-54—									
July—January ..	100.4	56.4	37.8	25.5	25.0	7.1	252.2	504.4	673.6
—February ..	115.3	63.9	43.2	29.1	28.3	8.0	287.8	570.5	763.6
—March ..	131.0	73.3	49.4	33.5	31.9	9.5	328.6	656.9	879.0
1954-55—									
July—January ..	107.2	58.9	39.9	27.5	25.9	7.5	266.9	518.8	701.2
—February ..	122.2	67.0	45.4	31.5	29.4	8.7	304.2	589.5	896.4
—March ..	140.1	79.4	51.9	36.3	33.4	10.2	351.3	684.2	926.2
1955-56—									
July—January ..	115.4	67.9	43.8	31.7	29.5	9.4	297.7	580.2	786.1
—February ..	132.4	77.2	49.9	36.2	33.6	10.9	340.2	662.2	889.1
—March ..	140.1	88.1	55.9	41.0	38.1	12.4	375.6	768.1	1,025.7

(a) To avoid duplication in aggregating particulars for the Commonwealth and States, the grand totals exclude payments by the Commonwealth to the States for compensation in respect of uniform taxation, interest on States' debts, special grants and special financial assistance, also pay-roll tax payments by States to the Commonwealth. The totals of revenue and expenditure of the States have also been adjusted.

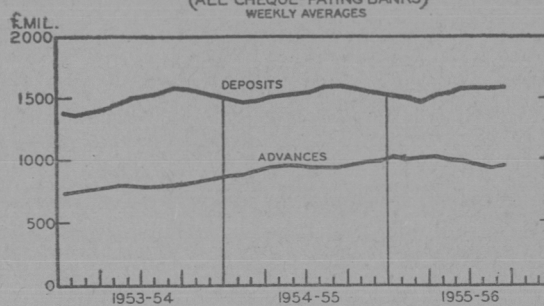
(b) Excludes Main Roads Department, Road Transport and Traffic Fund, and recoups of interest, &c., from undertakings outside the Budget. To obtain comparability between States, Commonwealth Hospital Benefits have been excluded from annual figures.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

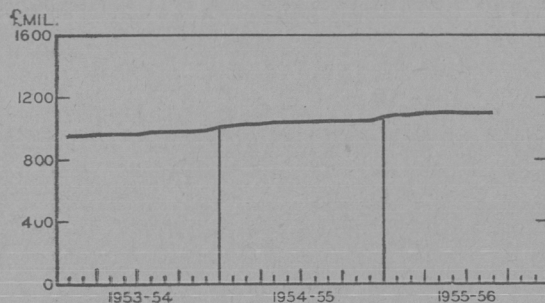
BANK DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS
(ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS)
WEEKLY AVERAGES



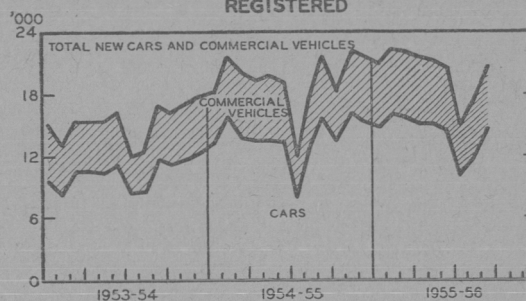
DEPOSITS AND ADVANCES
(ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS)
WEEKLY AVERAGES



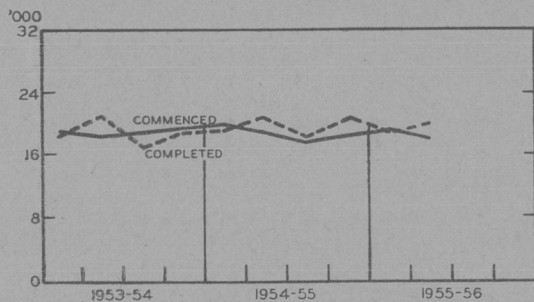
SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS



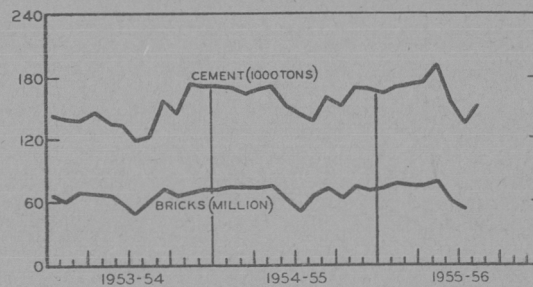
NEW MOTOR CARS AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLES REGISTERED



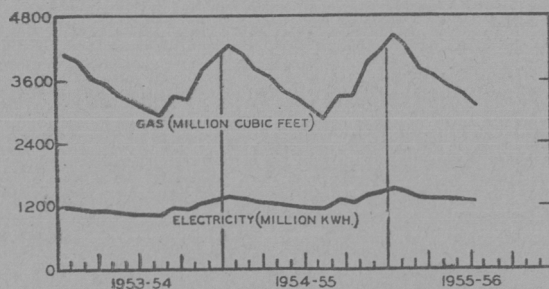
NEW HOUSES



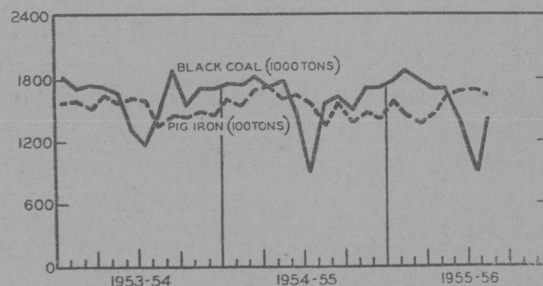
PRODUCTION OF BRICKS AND CEMENT



PRODUCTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY



PRODUCTION OF BLACK COAL AND PIG IRON



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- „ 18. Monthly Index of Export Prices : February, 1956.
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- „ 19. Monthly Bulletin : Oversea Trade Statistics : February, 1956.
- „ 20. Monthly Australian Demographic Review No. 63 : March, 1956.
- „ 23. Exports of Wool : Nine Months ended March, 1956.
- „ 23. Statistical Bulletin : The "C" Series Retail Price Index : March quarter, 1956.
- „ 23. Registrations of New Motor Vehicles : March, 1956 (Preliminary).
- „ 26. Statistical Bulletin : The Dairying Industry, Vol. 19, No. 2 : February, 1956.
- „ 26. Net Expenditure by the State Governments on Social Services 1953-54 and 1954-55.
- „ 27. Monthly Bulletin : Life Assurance Statistics No. 108 : January, 1956.
- „ 27. Hire Purchase Business of Finance Companies for Goods Sold by Retail : February, 1956. (Preliminary.)
- „ 30. Retail Sales of Goods : December quarter, 1955.
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- May 2. Monthly Bulletin of Employment Statistics No. 171 : February, 1956.
- „ 2. Statistical Bulletin : The Gold Mining Industry : February, 1956.
- „ 2. Census of Australia : 30th June, 1954—
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- „ 3. Monthly Bulletin : Banking Statistics No. 127 : March, 1956.
- „ 3. Statistical Bulletin : Vegetables Grown on Farms for Human Consumption No. 9 :
Season 1954-55.
- „ 4. Monthly Australian Demographic Review No. 64 : April, 1956.
- „ 4. Oversea Trade : April, 1956 (Preliminary.)
- „ 4. Statistical Bulletin : Savings Banks Deposits and Savings Certificates No. 105 :
March, 1956.
- „ 8. Monthly Bulletin : Production Statistics No. 89 : April, 1956.
- „ 10. Census of Australia : 30th June, 1954—
No. 51 : Weekly Rent (Unfurnished) of Private Dwellings and Date of Building
of Private Dwellings.
- „ 10. Monthly Bulletin : Life Assurance Statistics No. 109 : February, 1956.
- „ 15. Statistical Bulletin : Monthly Index of Australian Export Prices : March, 1956.

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